The Jade Fan Project is a hepatitis B awareness campaign being run across parts of Western Sydney. Some community groups are at risk of having the hepatitis B virus and not knowing it, so the Jade Fan project aims to spread the word and encourage people to discuss hepatitis B testing, immunisation and treatment with their GP.

Many people living with the virus either contracted it at birth or during childhood in their home country; most will not even know that they have it. For a lot of people hepatitis B infection will stay silent for many years without any symptoms, so everyone in high risk populations should be tested for the virus. Without treatment, the hepatitis B virus will lead to advanced liver disease or liver cancer in 15-25% cases.

Immunisation is part of the routine childhood immunisation schedule; however it is important to ensure that your child has completed the full course of vaccinations and that you and the other members of your household are also covered.

So the message is very simple;

**B Aware** that the virus can cause serious liver damage

**B Tested** especially if you come from a country with high hepatitis B rates (China, Vietnam, Korea)

**B Immunised** if you test negative – ensure your children have been immunised as part of their childhood immunisation program.

**B Treated** if your test is positive for the virus, talk with your GP about treatment choices.

For more information about hepatitis B, talk with your GP

(in Australia, all conversations with your doctor remain private)

or call the Hepatitis Hotline on 1800 803 990