

CDC: Routine procedures lead to two cases of HCV transmission

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(HealthDay)—Two cases of hepatitis C infection that occurred during routine surgeries highlight the need for hospitals to tighten infection control to prevent more transmissions, officials said Friday.

In one case, two New Jersey patients (one of them had hepatitis C) received an injection of the anesthetic propofol from the same medication cart. In the other instance, two Wisconsin patients (one of them had hepatitis C) received kidneys that had been prepared for transplantation on the same machine, according to research published in the Feb. 27 issue of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*.

The source of the infection in the Wisconsin case was not pinpointed, Gwen Borlaug, M.P.H., coordinator of the HAI Prevention Program at the Wisconsin Division of Public Health in Madison, told *HealthDay*,

but "we identified breaches in [infection control](#) practices in the operating room that likely resulted in the transmission."

In the New Jersey case, the infection was traced to contaminated equipment that was taken from one operating room to another. Barbara Montana, M.D., M.P.H., medical director of the communicable disease service at the New Jersey Department of Health in Trenton, told *HealthDay*, "Fortunately, these infections can be prevented when [health care providers](#) follow basic [infection](#) prevention practices."

More information: [Full Text](#)

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