

Jaundice: Why It Happens in Adults?



1) **Hepatitis:**

Most of the time, this infection is caused by a virus. It may be short-lived (acute) or chronic, which means it lasts for at least 6 months. Drugs or autoimmune disorders can cause hepatitis. Over time, it can damage the liver and lead to jaundice.

2) **Alcohol-Related Liver Disease:**

If you drink too much over a long period of time -- typically 8 to 10 years -- you could seriously damage your liver. Two diseases in particular, alcoholic hepatitis and alcoholic cirrhosis, harm the liver.

3) **Blocked Bile Ducts:**

These are thin tubes that carry a fluid called bile from the liver and gallbladder to the small intestine. Sometimes, they get blocked by gallstones, cancer, or rare liver diseases. If they do, you could get jaundice.

4) **Pancreatic Cancer:**

This is the 10th most common cancer in men and the ninth in women. It can block the bile duct, causing jaundice.

5) **Certain Medicines:**

Drugs like acetaminophen, penicillin, birth control pills, and steroids have been linked to liver disease