



# HEPATITIS A OUTBREAK: KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR IT

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According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the hepatitis A vaccine is the best way to help prevent hepatitis A infection. Learn more about how you can help prevent infection from hepatitis A.

**Vaccination may not protect all recipients.**

Hepatitis A outbreaks were first identified in 2016. Since then, 30 states have reported outbreaks. There have been over 28,000 cases of hepatitis A. 60% of reported cases required hospitalization and some resulted in death. According to the CDC, the best way to help protect yourself from the hepatitis A virus is to get vaccinated with the hepatitis A vaccine.

These data are evolving and the information is current as of 12/20/2019.

## WHAT IS HEPATITIS A?



It is a contagious liver infection caused by the hepatitis A virus



Hepatitis A causes inflammation of the liver and it can affect how it functions



It can range from a mild illness lasting a few weeks to a severe illness lasting months



Although rare, it can cause liver failure and death in some people

**Vaccination may not protect all recipients.**

# WHO IS AT RISK FOR HEPATITIS A?

Anyone can get hepatitis A. The most common ways that hepatitis A infections occur are through person-to-person contact as well as contaminated food or drink. The following groups are at higher risk for acquiring hepatitis A infection in an outbreak situation, such as:

- People experiencing unstable housing or homelessness
- People who use drugs (injection or non-injection)
- Men who have sex with men (MSM)
- People who are currently or were recently incarcerated
- People with chronic liver disease, including cirrhosis, hepatitis B, or hepatitis C

For a complete list of hepatitis A risk factors, please see <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hav/index.htm>

# WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF HEPATITIS A?

Older children and adults often have symptoms, which can include:

- **FEVER**
- **FATIGUE**
- **LOSS OF APPETITE**
- **NAUSEA**
- **VOMITING**
- **ABDOMINAL PAIN**
- **DARK URINE**
- **DIARRHEA**
- **CLAY-COLORED STOOLS**
- **JOINT PAIN**
- **JAUNDICE**  
(yellow skin and eyes)

# CDC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HEPATITIS A VACCINATION

The best way to help prevent hepatitis A is through vaccination with the hepatitis A vaccine. Completion of the vaccination series is necessary to get the full benefit of hepatitis A vaccination.

**Vaccination may not protect all recipients.**

## TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR OR PHARMACIST ABOUT GETTING VACCINATED



Find out if hepatitis A vaccination is right for you.

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