



HEPATITIS A OUTBREAK: KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR IT

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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