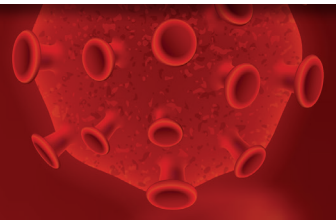


VIRAL HEPATITIS A



Hepatitis A is a HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS Liver Infection

Hepatitis means inflammation of the liver. The liver is a vital organ that processes nutrients, filters the blood, and fights infections. When the liver is inflamed or damaged, its function can be affected.

Heavy alcohol use, some medications, toxins, and certain medical conditions can cause hepatitis. Hepatitis is most often caused by a virus. There are five types of hepatitis virus: A, B, C, D, and E. Although all types of viral hepatitis can cause similar symptoms, they are spread in different ways, have different treatments, and some are more serious than others. Hepatitis A is caused by the hepatitis A virus.

Hepatitis A is spread through:

Person-to-person Contact



Contaminated Food or Drink

SYMPTOMS

Adults are more likely to develop symptoms than children. Symptoms usually appear 2-7 weeks after infection and can last up to 6 months.



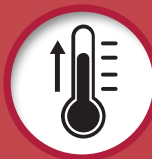
Yellow Skin or Eyes



Nausea/Vomiting



Stomach/ Joint Pain



Fever



Unexplained Weight Loss



Fatigue



Diarrhea/ Pale Stool



Dark Urine

EFFECTS

People who get hepatitis A usually have mild symptoms and recover completely.

In rare cases, hepatitis A can cause liver failure and death.

1

Dose of

Hepatitis A Vaccine

can prevent infection if given within two weeks of exposure

Vaccination is the Most Effective Tool for Prevention!

Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2020). Hepatitis A. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hav/pdfs/hepageneralfactsheet.pdf>. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2021). Vaccine Information Statement: Hepatitis A Vaccine. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/hep-a.pdf>.

HEPATITIS A PREVENTION

How Can I Prevent Infection?

Practicing good hand hygiene—including thoroughly washing hands with soap and warm water after using the bathroom, changing diapers and before preparing or eating food—plays an important role in preventing the spread of many illnesses, including hepatitis A.

Avoiding unclean food and water are also important. Food can be contaminated with the hepatitis A virus at any point: growing, harvesting, processing, handling, and even after cooking. Foodborne outbreaks have occurred in the United States.

Handwashing and Proper Hygiene



Avoid Unclean Food and Water



Get Vaccinated



VACCINATION

Remains the Best Tool for Preventing Hepatitis A Infection

The hepatitis A vaccine is safe and effective. The vaccine series usually consists of two shots, given six months apart. Getting both shots provides the best protection against hepatitis A.

How Do I Learn More About Hepatitis A and Vaccination?



Talk to Your Health Care Provider



Reach Out to Federal Organizations



Call Your Local or State Health Department

- Visit the website of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for vaccine package inserts and additional information at www.fda.gov/vaccines-blood-biologics/vaccines.
- Contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): Call 1-800-232-4636 (1-800-CDC-INFO) or Visit CDC's Website at www.cdc.gov/vaccines.

Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2020). Hepatitis A. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hav/pdfs/hepageneralfactsheet.pdf>. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2021). Vaccine Information Statement: Hepatitis A Vaccine. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/hep-a.pdf>.