

Important Information for Providers: Hepatitis A Outbreak Prevention

Hepatitis A outbreaks are occurring in many high-risk groups across the country. DHEC is working to prevent Hepatitis A outbreaks in South Carolina.



Who is at risk?

- People who use drugs
- People who are homeless
- Men who have sex with men
- People who were recently incarcerated



Vaccination is the best protection!

- Provide high-risk individuals with single antigen Hepatitis A vaccine or Twinrix (Hep A/B) vaccine
- Refer high-risk individuals to county health departments for no-cost hepatitis A vaccine



Consider Hepatitis A as a diagnosis

- For patients with jaundice or clinically compatible symptoms including abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, fever, and dark urine. Patients may have elevated LFTs.
- Initial serologic testing includes anti-HAV IgM and IgG
- Consider saving serum samples for additional testing by DHEC/CDC (Genotype testing is helpful in linking associated cases to outbreaks)



Report any suspect and/or confirmed cases

- Hepatitis A is required to be reported to DHEC regional public health offices by phone within 24 hours
- DHEC will assist with contact investigations and can provide post-exposure prophylaxis to contacts
- DHEC offers guidance for recommended lab testing

**For DHEC immunization appointments,
call: 1-855-472-3432.**