

## **HAN: MDHHS Hepatitis A Outbreak Vaccination Recommendations Remain Consistent**

A recent [Indiana State Department of Health \(ISDH\) press release](#) advised its residents to get vaccinated if planning to travel to states experiencing hepatitis A outbreaks, including Michigan. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is issuing this MIHAN message to provide clarity on any confusion the ISDH release may have caused.

Regarding travel restrictions, neither Michigan nor the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued any restrictions in the U.S. regarding travel to states experiencing hepatitis A outbreaks. Hepatitis A is not endemic in Michigan and these recommendations do not align with MDHHS or the CDC's overall hepatitis A vaccination recommendations.

MDHHS continues to encourage outreach, screening, and vaccination of high-risk groups outlined in the [MDHHS Strategic Prioritization for Primary Prevention Vaccination](#) for the hepatitis A outbreak. Those in high-risk groups include:

- Persons who use injection or non-injection drugs
- Men who have sex with men
- Persons who are currently homeless or in transient living conditions
- Persons who have been recently incarcerated
- Persons with chronic liver disease

Healthcare providers should engage in informed consent processes which include screening for high-risk status and reviewing the risks and benefits of hepatitis A vaccination for individuals concerned about their risk of becoming infected. Local health departments should note that any individuals seeking public hepatitis A vaccine should not be turned away if their high-risk status cannot be verified.

Healthcare providers should also refer to the [Hepatitis A Vaccination Priority Levels for Hospital Personnel in Response to the Hepatitis A Michigan Outbreak](#).

ACIP recommendations should continue to be followed per standard protocols, including vaccination for children. There is no change to those routine activities.

Additional information and guidance can be found on the [michigan.gov/hepatitisAoutbreak](http://michigan.gov/hepatitisAoutbreak) website.



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For reference, hepatitis A talking points in response to recent media stories regarding travel to Michigan are also attached.

*--This message is being sent to the following statewide MIHAN roles: Communicable Disease / Infection Prevention, Communications / Public Information, Emergency Preparedness, Epidemiology, HAN Coordinator, Health Officer, Healthcare, and Physician / Medical Director--*

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Thank you,  
Michigan Health Alert Network

The Michigan Health Alert Network (MIHAN) is a secure, web-based communication system that was established by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of EMS, Trauma & Preparedness with guidance and funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The MIHAN serves to alert key public health, healthcare and public safety personnel of conditions that could adversely impact the health and safety of Michigan's citizens.