

## **HAN: The MDHHS Wants LHDs, Hospitals and Healthcare Providers to Stay Vigilant Against Hep A in Michigan**

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

The Michigan hepatitis A outbreak continues to be the largest outbreak in United States history. Despite a great deal of effort, case counts continue to increase. In the first three months of 2018, there are already more cases reported than the first three months of 2017! As of April 4, 2018, 802 cases have been identified with over 80% of cases hospitalized and 25 deaths.

Immunization of at risk populations remains the cornerstone of controlling the outbreak. Only 13% of Michigan adults have immunity to hepatitis A, either through vaccination or past infection. CDC recommends getting to 80% vaccination coverage for the populations at highest risk of exposure:

- Persons with history of substance use
- Currently homeless or in transient living
- Men who have sex with men
- History of incarceration
- Persons with underlying liver disease

It is critical that hospitals and healthcare providers screen for risk factors and immunize patients accordingly. It is also important to maintain diligence to identify cases of hepatitis A and ensure post-exposure prophylaxis is offered to contacts of infected cases. For further information on hepatitis A outbreak response efforts in your county, contact your local health department.

Additional epidemiologic information and guidance for providers may be found at [www.michigan.gov/hepatitisaoutbreak](http://www.michigan.gov/hepatitisaoutbreak).

### **You may respond by doing one of the following:**

- Select a single response below by clicking on the desired Response text.
- Reply to this email with the corresponding number to your response on the top line within the body of the email, e.g., 1 for indicating that you wish to use response option 1.

*Option# Response:*

#### **1. Message Received.**

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.



April 6, 2018

Thank you,  
Michigan Health Alert Network

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