SCREEN - IMMUNIZE - INFORM
Emergency Department Evaluation and Management of Patients at High Risk for Hepatitis A

During 2017, over 500 Michigan residents have been infected with hepatitis A, making it the largest hepatitis A outbreak in Michigan's history. One of the most effective ways to reduce further spread of the outbreak is to ensure that as many as possible of those at highest risk for hepatitis A have received at least 1 dose of hepatitis A vaccine.

PREVENTION BEGINS WITH SCREENING FOR RISK FACTORS

**DO ANY OF THESE RISK FACTORS APPLY TO THE PATIENT?**
- Persons who use injection or non-injection illicit drugs
- Persons with chronic liver disease, such as cirrhosis, hepatitis B, or hepatitis C
- Men who have sex with men
- Persons who are homeless

If YES, screen for signs & symptoms of Hepatitis A and obtain vaccine history

**OBTAIN HISTORY OF HEP A VACCINE**
- Have you ever received the hepatitis A vaccine? If so, when?
- Were you ever diagnosed with hepatitis A? If so, when?

If the patient has received 1 or more doses of hepatitis A vaccination or has a history of hepatitis A infection, there is no need to proceed with screening.
If the patient has not received any doses of hepatitis A vaccination & has no known history of hepatitis A infection, proceed with screening.

**DETERMINE HEALTH INSURANCE**
- Do you currently have health insurance, including Medicaid or private insurance?

**ADMINISTER VACCINE**
- If YES, administer private vaccine and bill insurance.
- If patient answers NO, is not sure, or states that insurance doesn't cover vaccines, please administer public (State-funded) vaccine.

**SYMPTOMATIC - Signs & Symptoms**
- Jaundice
- Fever malaise
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Anorexia
- Abdominal pain
- Diarrhea
- Dark urine
- Light stools

**ISOLATE**
- Observe standard precautions
- Observe contact precautions when caring for incontinent and diapered patients
- Observe hand hygiene with soap and water; wash hands for at least 10-20 seconds
- Confirm diagnosis with serum IgM testing

**INFORM**
- Report suspected and confirmed cases immediately to the Local Health Department and Hospital Infection Control.
- State-funded vaccine dose must be entered into the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR).
- Patients with hepatitis A should avoid work in food establishments and healthcare/childcare settings until 2 weeks after symptom onset. Provide education to patients about hepatitis A, how it spreads, and how to prevent it.
- To order free hep A brochures and posters, go to http://www.hphcereadinghouse.org/preframestart.htm
- For more information about the hep A outbreak response, go to http://mi.gov/hepatitisAOutbreak

Adapted with permission from Dr. Kristi L. Koenig, EMS Medical Director, County of San Diego Health & Human Services Agency

SOURCES