

# Pharmacists are helping to protect patients in Michigan from hepatitis A.

## What is hepatitis A?

Hepatitis A is a serious liver disease caused by a virus. The virus is found in the feces (poop) of infected people.

If a person has an infection with the hepatitis A virus, it can easily spread from person-to-person and cause liver disease lasting from a few weeks to months as a serious illness. In some cases, people can die because of hepatitis A.

## Who is at high risk?

The following groups are at the highest risk during this outbreak:

- Men who have sex with men.
- Persons who use injection or non-injection drugs.
- Persons currently homeless or in temporary housing.
- Persons who have been recently incarcerated.
- Persons with chronic liver disease (including hepatitis B, C, or cirrhosis).
- Persons who have been exposed to someone with hepatitis A virus infection (within two weeks of exposure) to prevent infection. This is called 'post-exposure prophylaxis' or 'PEP'.

## What are the symptoms of hepatitis A?

Not everyone shows symptoms. If symptoms develop, than they usually appear 15-50 days after exposure.



Nausea or vomiting



Stomach pain



Loss of appetite

Fatigue / tired



Fever



Yellowing of the skin or eyes (jaundice)



Dark urine, pale stools, or diarrhea

## How do I prevent the spread of hepatitis A?

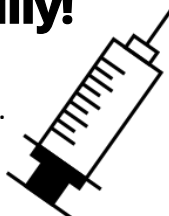
### Wash your hands carefully!

- After using the bathroom or toilet.
- After helping someone use the toilet.
- After changing a diaper.
- Before you touch or cook food.



### Get vaccinated if you are at risk for getting hepatitis A!

The best protection is to get vaccinated; it is highly effective.



**Ask your pharmacist today about hepatitis A vaccine!**

For the most recent information, visit:  
[www.mi.gov/hepatitisAoutbreak](http://www.mi.gov/hepatitisAoutbreak)

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Adapted with permission from the County of San Diego.