



Hepatitis A Virus (HAV)

Alert for Health Care Providers

Florida Department of Health • FloridaHealth.gov

Protect

Vaccinate high-risk patients.

The HAV vaccine is given as 2 shots, 6 months apart. Patients will need both shots for the vaccine to work long-term.

Diagnosis is with confirmation of a serum IGM test. Report HAV cases to your CHD.

Treatment is supportive.

Prevention is through vaccination of at risk individuals.



Is Your Patient at High Risk for HAV?

At-risk people:

- Are in close contact, care for or live with someone who has HAV.
- Use injection or non-injection drugs.
- Are homeless or in temporary housing.
- Have recently been incarcerated.
- Are men who have had sex with other men.
- Have recently visited a country where HAV is common.
- Are having sex with someone who has HAV.



Symptoms:

- Stomach pain
- Nausea and vomiting
- Jaundice
- Diarrhea
- Loss of appetite
- Joint pain
- Pale or clay colored stool
- Fever
- Tired
- Dark-colored urine

Educate Patients

HAV:

- Spreads person-to-person from ingesting small amounts of fecal matter from a person with HAV.
- Sexual activity can spread HAV
- People who are sick with HAV should avoid sexual contact.
- People who are at-risk should get vaccinated.

Wash hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds:

BEFORE THEY

- Prepare food, or work with food that isn't already packaged.

AFTER THEY

- Use the restroom.
- Change a diaper.
- Cough, sneeze or use a handkerchief or tissue.



ALCOHOL-BASED HAND SANITIZERS DON'T KILL HAV GERMS!

Do not:

SHARE

Towels, toothbrushes or eating utensils.

TOUCH

Food, drinks, drugs or cigarettes that have been handled by a person with HAV.

Share the need for vaccination with anyone you know who might be at risk.

Have questions? Like to learn more?

Contact the Florida Department of Health:

Learn more:

FloridaHealth.gov/hepa
CDC.gov/Hepatitis,
Immunize.org/Hepatitis-A

