



What is Hepatitis A?

- An infection of the liver caused by the Hepatitis A virus (HAV)

What are symptoms that could occur?

- Some people have no symptoms
- Loss of appetite
- Abdominal pain
- Fatigue
- Nausea/diarrhea
- Swelling and tenderness of the liver
- Yellowing of skin and eyes
- Dark urine, clay-colored (gray) bowel movements

How is it spread?

- Spread from person to person by hands or food/drink contaminated with feces
- Outbreaks may be due to water or food contaminated with feces, such as raw shellfish, mostly oysters, or food not cooked long enough at the correct temperature
- Incubation period is 15-50 days with an average of 28 days

How is it diagnosed and treated?

- Primary care provider evaluation and laboratory testing
- Treatment is aimed at relief of symptoms

How can Hepatitis A be prevented?

- Hepatitis A vaccine is an effective prevention
- If given before or within 2 weeks of exposure, an immune globulin shot is effective in lessening the severity or preventing the disease
- Wash hands with soap and water after using the restroom, changing a diaper or when preparing food and before eating.

Should the sick individual be isolated?

- The infected person should be kept away from other people
- **IMMEDIATELY** notify the Health Department at 257-1017

When can the sick individual return to the general population?

- With written approval from physician including statement on any limitation of activity

Should facilities do special cleaning?

- Special cleaning is not necessary. Routine cleaning with EPA approved products is recommended.

If I have any other questions, whom can I contact?

- Call the Genesee County Health Department at 257-1017