



# Hepatitis A Virus Alert for Food Workers

## Hepatitis A is contagious.

Hepatitis A virus is in the poop of people who have the virus. If a person with the virus doesn't wash his or her hands after going to the bathroom, poop can transfer to people, objects, food and drinks.



## At-risk people:

- Are in close contact, care for or live with someone who has hepatitis A.
- 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 the virus is common.
- Are having sex with someone who has the virus.

## Symptoms

- Stomach pain
- Nausea and vomiting
- Yellow skin or eyes (jaundice)
- Diarrhea
- Loss of appetite
- Joint pain
- Pale or clay colored stool
- Fever
- Tired
- Dark-colored urine

Symptoms usually start 2–7 weeks after infection and last less than 2 months. Some people can be sick for up to 6 months.

You can have hepatitis A for up to 2 weeks without feeling sick, but during that time, you can spread it to others.

## Staying home from work.

If you have some symptoms and a close friend, relative or roommate who has been diagnosed within the past 30 days, see a health care provider immediately.

### LET YOUR BOSS KNOW IF:

- You're seeing a health care provider because you have symptoms.
- You've seen a health care provider because you have hepatitis A.



## Don't spread hepatitis A at work.

Wash your hands with soap and warm, running water for 20 seconds:

### BEFORE YOU

- Put on disposable gloves.
- Prepare food.
- Switch between working with raw food and working with ready-to-eat food.
- Work with food that isn't packaged.
- Change kitchen tasks.
- Handle or serve food.
- Handle clean tableware and utensils.
- Handle take-out containers or utensils.
- Clean equipment.



**ALCOHOL-BASED HAND SANITIZERS DON'T KILL HEPATITIS A GERMS!**

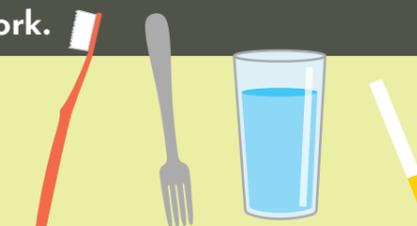
### AFTER YOU

- Touch bare human body parts other than clean hands and arms.
- Use the restroom.
- Handle dirty equipment or utensils.
- Cough, sneeze or use a handkerchief or tissue.
- Use tobacco, eat or drink.

## Don't spread hepatitis A outside of work.

### DON'T SHARE:

Towels, toothbrushes or eating utensils.



### DON'T TOUCH:

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

**Sexual activity can spread hepatitis A—people with the virus should avoid sexual contact.**

## The vaccination is safe & effective.

- If you're at risk, get vaccinated.
- The vaccine is given as 2 shots, 6 months apart. You need both shots for the vaccine to work long-term.



For more information, call the hepatitis A information line, Mon.–Fri., 8 a.m.–5p.m, toll free: 1-844-CALL-DOH (844-225-5364).

Email: [HepA@flhealth.gov](mailto:HepA@flhealth.gov).

Learn more: [FloridaHealth.gov/HepA](http://FloridaHealth.gov/HepA)  
[CDC.gov/Hepatitis](http://CDC.gov/Hepatitis)  
[Immunize.org/Hepatitis-A](http://Immunize.org/Hepatitis-A)