

# **Hepatitis A** is a vaccine-preventable form of infectious hepatitis.

Florida Department of Health • Florida Health.gov

Hepatitis A is contagious & can harm your liver.

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

# Symptoms

You can have hepatitis A for up 2 weeks without feeling sick, but during that time you may be spreading the virus to others.

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

#### **COMMON SYMPTOMS:**

- Stomach pain.
- Nausea and vomiting.
- Yellow skin or eyes (jaundice).





#### **OTHER SYMPTOMS:**

- Diarrhea.
- Loss of appetite.
- Joint pain.
- Pale or clay colored stool.
- Fever.
- Tired.
- Dark-colored urine.

# Think you're at risk? See your health care provider.

#### You're at risk if you:

- Are in close contact, care for or live with someone who has hepatitis A.
- Have recently visited a country where the virus is common—or been in close contact with someone who has.
- Are having sex with someone who has the virus.
- Use injection or non-injection drugs.
- Are homeless or in temporary housing.
- Have recently been incarcerated.

#### Your health care provider:

- Will talk to you about your risks and symptoms.
- May take a blood sample to test you for the virus.

# If you have hepatitis A, you will need to:

- Get lots of rest.
- Eat healthy food.
- Drink plenty of fluids.
- Keep all medical appointments with your health care provider.

# Stay home from work if you have hepatitis A.

If you have some symptoms and a close friend, relative or roommate who has been diagnosed with hepatitis A in 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 and you have hepatitis A.

## Prevent the spread of hepatitis A.

Talk to your health care provider about getting vaccinated.



### Wash your hands after you use the bathroom.

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

#### **BEFORE YOU**

- Prepare food.
- Work with food that isn't already packaged.

#### **AFTER YOU**

- Touch people or public surfaces.
- Use the restroom.
- Change a diaper.
- Cough, sneeze or use a handkerchief or tissue.
- Use tobacco, eat or drink.





#### **DON'T SHARE:**

Towels, toothbrushes or eating utensils.

#### DON'T TOUCH:

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

# The hepatitis A vaccine is safe & effective.

- If you're at risk, you should get vaccinated.
- The vaccine is given as 2 shots, 6 months apart. You need both shots for the vaccine to work long-term.
- Contact your county health department if you don't have health insurance at this time and you need help getting a vaccination.

# Have questions? Like to learn more?

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.

Learn more: FloridaHealth.gov/HepA, CDC.gov/Hepatitis or Immunize.org/Hepatitis-A.