



Hepatitis A

Report a case or suspect case **within 24 hours** to local public health

Additional Information:

Hepatitis A infection interferes with liver's ability to digest food and keep the blood healthy.

Most people will recover completely from this infection and maintain lifelong immunity to hepatitis A virus.

Hepatitis A is a viral infection that infects the liver.

Symptoms in adults and older children include:

- Sudden onset of loss of appetite
- Nausea/vomiting
- Fever
- Jaundice (yellowing of the skin and eyes)
- Dark-colored urine
- Clay-colored stool
- Joint pain

Young children with hepatitis A disease often have no or mild symptoms.

Incubation Period	15 to 50 days; average 25 to 30 days
Contagious Period	1-3 weeks

Recommended Actions

Refer to a health care provider for evaluation and diagnosis.

Cases:

Exclude case from working as a food handler or caring for children in or attending a child care establishment during the first 14 days of illness or for 7 days after the onset of jaundice.

Contacts:

Exclude a contact from working as a food handler during the first 14 days of illness or for 7 days after the onset of jaundice.

Please see [Arizona Administrative Code R9-6-337](#) for specific language.

If you have questions please call public health for assistance and recommendations.

Transmission

Transmission occurs from stool-to-mouth (fecal-oral) spread by way of unwashed hands or foods contaminated by unwashed hands.

Prevention

Hep A vaccine is recommended to be given between 12 to 23 months of age with a 2 dose series.

[CDC Updated Vaccine Schedule](#)

Practice good [hand-washing](#) and hygienic [diapering practices](#).

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Resources

- [CDC Hepatitis A](#)
- [ADHS Hepatitis A](#)
- [ADHS Hepatitis A Fact Sheet](#)