

SCREEN - IMMUNIZE - INFORM

Evaluation and Management of Patients at High Risk for Hepatitis A

One of the most effective ways to reduce the spread of hepatitis A in Chicago is to ensure that those at highest risk of disease have received at least 1 dose of hepatitis A vaccine. Report suspected and confirmed cases immediately to Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) Communicable Disease Hepatitis Surveillance at (phone) 312-746-6197; (fax) 312-746-6388. Call 311 and ask for the Communicable disease physician on call for evenings, weekends, or holidays.

PREVENTION BEGINS WITH SCREENING FOR RISK FACTORS

RISK

DO ANY OF THESE RISK FACTORS APPLY TO THE PATIENT?

- Persons who use injection or non-injection illicit drugs
- Men who have sex with men
- Persons with chronic liver disease, such as cirrhosis, hepatitis B, or hepatitis C
- Persons who are homeless

If YES, screen for signs & symptoms of Hepatitis A and obtain vaccine history

OBTAIN HISTORY OF HEP A VACCINE

- Have you ever received the hepatitis A vaccine? If so, when?
- Were you ever diagnosed with hepatitis A? If so, when?

If the patient has received 1 or more doses of hepatitis A vaccination or has a history of hepatitis A infection, there is no need to proceed with screening.

If the patient has not received any doses of hepatitis A vaccination & has no known history of hepatitis A infection, proceed with screening.

DETERMINE HEALTH INSURANCE



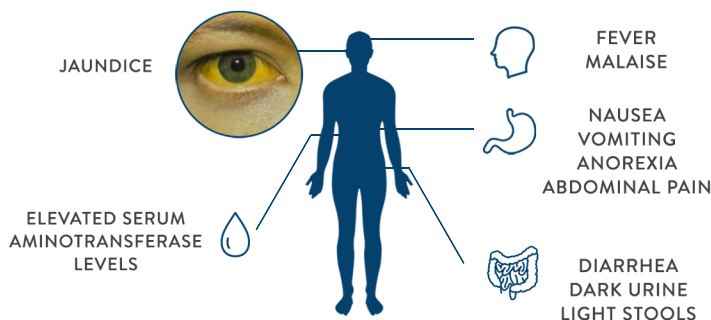
- Do you currently have health insurance, including Medicaid or private insurance?

ADMINISTER VACCINE



- If YES, administer private vaccine and bill insurance.
- If patient answers NO, is not sure, or states that insurance doesn't cover vaccines, please administer public stock vaccine.

SYMPTOMATIC - Signs & Symptoms



ISOLATE



- Observe standard precautions
- Observe contact precautions when caring for incontinent and diapered patients
- Observe hand hygiene with soap and water; wash hands for at least 10-20 seconds
- Confirm diagnosis with serum IgM testing

INFORM



- Public stock vaccine dose must be entered into I-CARE (Illinois Comprehensive Automated Immunization Registry Exchange)
- Patients with hepatitis A should avoid work in food establishments and healthcare/childcare settings until 2 weeks after symptom onset. Provide education to patients about hepatitis A, how it spreads, and how to prevent it.
- For additional healthcare provider resources, visit <https://www.chicagohan.org/hepa>.
- For educational materials, including palm cards and posters to download, visit www.cityofchicago.org/HepatitisA.

Adapted with permission from Dr. Kristi L. Koenig, EMS Medical Director, County of San Diego Health & Human Services Agency

SOURCES

1. Koenig, K.L., Shastry, S., & Burns, M.J. (2017). Hepatitis A Virus: A novel Identify-Isolate-Inform Tool for Frontline Healthcare Providers. *Western Journal of Emergency Medicine*, 18(6), 1000-1007.
2. Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. (2017). Southeast Michigan Hepatitis A Outbreak Summary: 2016-2017.
3. CDC. Interim outbreak-specific guidance on hepatitis A vaccine administration. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/outbreaks/InterimOutbreakGuidance-HAV-VaccineAdmin.htm>. Last updated December 12, 2017.