

FactSheet

Para Su Información

Hepatitis A

Hepatitis A is a contagious viral disease that results in inflammation of the liver. It is transmitted person-to-person through contact with infected fecal matter (such as food handlers who don't wash their hands carefully).

Facts about hepatitis A

- One-third of all people will be exposed at some time.
- The national average of cases is 2.8 per 100,000 people.
- Nevada's rate is 4.95 per 100,000. Previously it was 21 per 100,000 before the Southern Nevada Health District required health card applicants to get the hepatitis A vaccination.

Symptoms

Symptoms typically appear at about one month after exposure, though they may develop between two and six weeks.

- Fever
- Loss of appetite
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Malaise

- Dark colored urine
- Jaundice (yellowing of the skin and whites of the eyes)

Information for employers

Adults who develop hepatitis A may get sick enough to miss up to six weeks of work, which costs the employer approximately \$125 a day.

Prevention

Vaccination is highly effective protection. Complete coverage requires two vaccinations six months apart. Thorough hand washing after using the bathroom and before food preparation and meals is an effective prevention method.

Treatment

Anyone who has been exposed or is infected should contact their doctor or the health district. They should receive the hepatitis A immune globulin within two weeks.

For more information

Contact the Workplace Vaccination Program at (702) 759-0878 or WPV@snhdmail.org; or visit www.SouthernNevadaHealthDistrict.org.



625 Shadow Lane | P.O. Box 3902
Las Vegas, NV 89127 | 702.759.1000
www.SouthernNevadaHealthDistrict.org