

Hepatitis A

What You Need to Know



HEALTH DIVISION

OAKGov.COM/HEALTH



Overview

Disease Background

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graph TD; A[Disease Background] --> B[Current Outbreak]; B --> C[Prevention & Treatment];
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Current Outbreak

Prevention & Treatment

DISEASE BACKGROUND

What is Hepatitis A?

- Virus that infects the liver
- Highly contagious
- Can range from:
 - Mild illness = few weeks
 - Severe illness = several months
- Death in rare instances

Transmission

- Person to person by contact with feces from an infected person*
- Sexual contact
- Close household contact
- Sharing needles and non-injection drug use

Symptoms

- Sudden onset abdominal pain
- Diarrhea
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Dark urine
- Tiredness
- Loss of appetite
- Headache
- Jaundice (yellowing of eyes and/or skin)

Incubation Time

- Many people are contagious for two (2) weeks before symptoms begin, and up to one (1) week after jaundice first appears.

Risk Factors

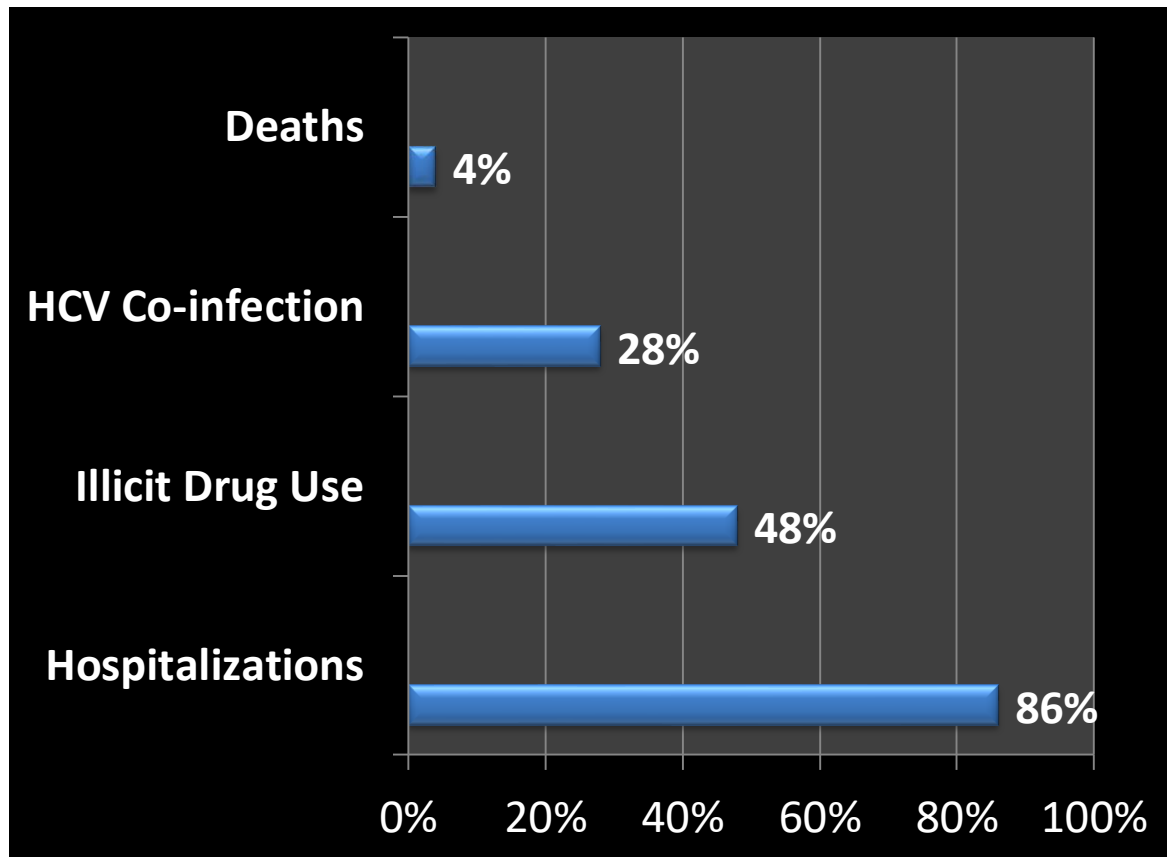
- People most likely to become infected:
 - Not vaccinated for hepatitis A
 - Share injection and non-injection drugs
 - Have sexual contact with someone who has hepatitis A
 - Men who have sex with men
 - Have close contact, care for, or live with someone who has hepatitis A
 - International travelers

CURRENT OUTBREAK

Southeast Michigan Outbreak

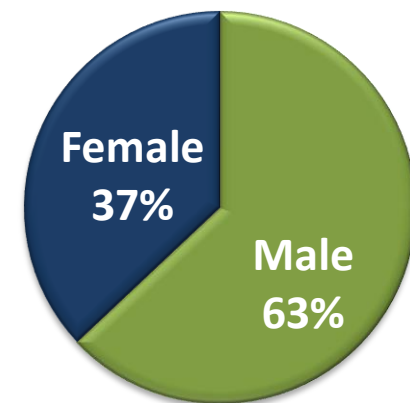
- Click [here](#) for the most recent outbreak data.
- Affected areas:
 - City of Detroit
 - Genesee, Ingham, Isabella, Lapeer, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, Sanilac, Shiawassee, St. Clair, Washtenaw, and Wayne counties
- 10 fold increase since last year.
- Main transmission: Direct person-to-person spread and illicit drug use
- No common food or water source identified

Outbreak Demographics



HCV = Hepatitis C

Gender



**Ages range
from 19 to 87
years old**

PREVENTION & TREATMENT

Prevention

- Immunization
 - 2 dose vaccination series given 6 months apart
 - 1st dose is 95% effective, begins 14-21 days after single dose
 - Hepatitis A is also included in the TWINRIX vaccine
 - TWINRIX vaccine: three-dose Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B combined vaccine
 - Once sick with hepatitis A, a person has lifelong immunity.

Prevention

- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and warm water:
 - Before eating or preparing food
 - After using the bathroom
 - After diapering/toileting a small child



Treatment

- No specific treatment
- Important to have a doctor follow the course of the infection.
- If you were recently exposed to hepatitis A and are not showing symptoms, you may get a vaccine to prevent serious illness.

IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE BEEN EXPOSED OR HAVE SYMPTOMS

- Talk to or see a healthcare provider.
- If you know that your exposure occurred within the last two weeks, you may be offered the hepatitis A vaccine.
- Your healthcare provider will determine if you need additional medical care.

IF YOU ARE DIAGNOSED

- Your local health department will contact you to learn how you may have been exposed to hepatitis A and who has been in close contact with you.
- The hepatitis A vaccine may be offered to those contacts for their protection and to further prevent the spread of disease.

Resources

- Oakland County Health Division (OCHD)
oakgov.com/health
- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)
mi.gov/hepatitisAoutbreak
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
cdc.gov/hepatitis



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Oakland Health Center
1200 N. Telegraph Rd
Pontiac, MI 48341
Phone: 248.858.1280

South
Oakland Health Center
27725 Greenfield Rd
Southfield, MI 48076
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NURSE ON CALL PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION
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