

HEPATITIS A

Coastal Health District

HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS. HIGHLY PREVENTABLE.

Hepatitis A is a vaccine-preventable, communicable disease of the liver caused by the hepatitis A virus (HAV). It is usually transmitted person-to-person through the fecal-oral route or consumption of contaminated food or water. This disease can range from a mild illness lasting a few weeks to a severe illness lasting several months.



What are the symptoms?

Not everyone has signs of hepatitis A. If symptoms do develop, they usually appear two to six weeks after infection and can include:

















ABDOMINAL PAIN

DARK URINE

VOMITING

(YELLOWING OF THE EYES)





DIARRHEA

FATIGUE (EXTREME TIREDNESS)

Symptoms are more likely to occur in adults than in children. They usually last fewer than two months, but some people can be ill as long as six months.

What should I do if I have symptoms?

Contact your healthcare provider or local health department immediately and do not prepare food for others. Do not attend work or school while ill.



GET VACCINATED IF YOU ARE AT HIGH RISK

Who is at high risk of hepatitis A?

- •Recreational drug (injection and non-injection) users
- Homeless or transient people
- People with direct contact with someone who has Hepatitis A
- Men who have sex with men
- Those in jail or prison
- International travelers

How can I prevent hepatitis A?

Get vaccinated, especially if you are at high risk!

Wash your hands with soap and water after using the restroom and before eating/preparing food.