



Importance of Post-Exposure Prophylaxis Following a Confirmed Case of Hepatitis A in a Foodhandler

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Hepatitis A

- Hepatitis A is caused by the hepatitis A virus (HAV)
- Major site of viral replication is in the liver
- Virus is then excreted in bile, and shed in the stool
- Usually characterized by an abrupt onset of fever, fatigue, nausea, abdominal pain, and diarrhea
- Incubation period ranges from 15 to 50 days, with an average of 28 to 30 days

Transmission

- Direct or indirect person-to-person spread via fecal-oral route
- Persons become infected by ingesting the virus
 - Ready-to-eat or uncooked foods that have been contaminated by an infected foodhandler
 - Contaminated produce
 - Fecally-contaminated water
 - Undercooked or cooked foods contaminated after cooling

Methods

- Interview foodhandler
- Partnering with other jurisdictions within New Jersey
 - LINC message
- Public notification, once risk was identified
 - Online bulletin
 - Press conference
- Coordination of vaccination clinics
- Public health partner notification
 - Epi-X



Results

- Three vaccination clinics organized, vaccinating 700 persons
- Surveillance identified 3 additional cases
 - Two were over the age of 40, and were vaccinated

Recommendations

- Timely investigation
- Risk assessment
- Consistent messaging

Hepatitis A Vaccinations Coming To Hamilton, N.J. After Restaurant Outbreak

Details announced on Hamilton hepatitis A vaccine clinic after confirmed restaurant case

Hamilton officials confirm 2 more cases of hepatitis A

Hair Salon Sanitized, Fitness Centers Warn Members About Hepatitis A Exposure

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