

# Hepatitis A

## HEALTH WARNING FOR PEOPLE LIVING HOMELESS (Seattle)

### WHAT IS HEPATITIS A?

Hepatitis A (hep A) is a virus that spreads easily. Many people don't know they have hep A so they spread it without knowing.

It can cause severe liver disease that can last for months.

Sometimes people die from hep A.

Hep A has been spreading in people living homeless in the U.S.



### HOW DOES IT SPREAD?

Hep A is in the poop of someone with hep A. If they haven't washed their hands after using the toilet, tiny bits of poop can get on things they touch. Hep A spreads from:



Touching objects or eating food that someone with hep A handled



Having sex with someone who has hep A



Sharing needles, pipes, or other items to take drugs



**Wash your hands with soap and water** after using the toilet, and before you cook or eat! Soap and water work best, but if they aren't available, use alcohol-based hand gel.

### HOW CAN YOU PREVENT HEPATITIS A?



Don't share food, drinks, needles, or smokes with other people



Don't have sex with someone who has hep A



Use your own towels, toothbrush and utensils



Get the hep A vaccine

## SYMPTOMS OF HEPATITIS A



Fever



Fatigue



Vomiting



No appetite



Jaundice  
(yellow eyes  
& skin)



Dark pee,  
pale poop,  
diarrhea

Some people with hep A don't have any symptoms

**If you think you might have hep A, see your doctor or go to the hospital**

## YOU CAN PROTECT YOURSELF FROM HEPATITIS A

Get a free hep A vaccine shot at these locations:

### **Pioneer Square Clinic**

206 3rd Ave S

Open Mon—Fri, daytime

### **3rd Ave Center**

2028 3rd Ave (next to Angeline's Day Center)

Open Mon—Fri, daytime

### **Boren Clinic**

1930 Boren Ave (at the Sobering Center)

Open Mon—Fri, mornings only

### **Robert Clewis Needle Exchange**

2124 4th Ave

Open Mon—Fri; Sat 2-4 PM

### **Downtown Public Health Clinic**

2124 4th Ave

Open Mon-Fri, daytime

### **Hepatitis Education Project**

1621 S Jackson St

Open Tues & Thurs, 1-5 PM, or by appointment

### **Ballard NeighborCare Clinic**

1753 NW 56th St (at the Nyer Urness House)

Open Mon—Fri, daytime

### **45th St Youth Clinic (ages 12-26)**

1629 N 45th St

Open Weds & Thurs, 6-9 PM

### **ICHS—International District**

720 8th Ave S

Open Mon-Fri, 8:30-5

### **ICHS—Holly Park**

3818 S Othello St

Open Mon-Fri, 8:30-5

### **Mobile Medical Van**

Various locations in Seattle, Tues—Fri

For locations, check: [Kingcounty.gov/mobilemed](http://Kingcounty.gov/mobilemed)

Most pharmacies offer the hep A shots if you have an insurance card

More information from Healthcare for the Homeless Network: [www.kingcounty.gov/hch](http://www.kingcounty.gov/hch)

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**Public Health**  
Seattle & King County

