**Hepatitis A**

**HEALTH WARNING FOR PEOPLE LIVING HOMELESS**

(South King County)

**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

**HOW CAN YOU PREVENT HEPATITIS A?**

- 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.
- Don’t share food, drinks, needles, or smokes with other people
- Use your own towels, toothbrush and utensils
- Don’t have sex with someone who has hep A
- 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:

SOUTH KING COUNTY LOCATIONS:

Public Health at Navos
1210 SW 136th St, Burien
Open Mon—Fri, daytime

Auburn Public Health Clinic
901 Auburn Way N, Suite A, Auburn
Open Mon—Fri, daytime

Federal Way Public Health Clinic
33431 13th Place S, Federal Way
Open Mon—Fri, daytime

Kent Public Health Clinic
25742 104th Ave SE, Kent (at Kent Hill Plaza Shopping Center)
Open Mon—Fri; daytime

HealthPoint Kent Urgent Care
219 State Ave N, Kent
Open Mon-Fri, daytime

Mobile Medical Van
Various locations in South County, Mon—Thurs
For locations, check: 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

Thanks to San Diego Health and Human Services for adaptation of their materials.

Last updated: 4/29/2019