

SUMMER 2017: Hepatitis A outbreak

There's a growing hepatitis A outbreak in Santa Cruz.

Each year in Santa Cruz County, one or two people get sick with hepatitis A. Right now, there are multiple people getting sick with hepatitis A every day. This outbreak is growing fast.

8 out of every 10 people who got sick, have had to stay in the hospital. In rare cases people die.

The people you work with may be vulnerable.

This outbreak is affecting people who share any of these characteristics:

- homelessness
- dense living conditions
- and/or illicit drug use

Don't become an outbreak site.

1. If your site serves food, remind food handlers that:

It is especially important to wash hands with soap and warm water after using the bathroom, and before preparing, serving, or eating food.

People with symptoms of hepatitis A should not handle food until they are well. Symptoms include: fever, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, stomach pain, Jaundice (yellowing of the skin or eyes), or dark urine, pale stools, or diarrhea.

2. Your Bathrooms

Maintain routine and consistent cleaning of bathrooms using a chlorine-based disinfectant (bleach) with a ratio of $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of bleach to one gallon of water. Include bathrooms that are for employees only and those that are open to the public.

3. Encourage people to get vaccinated

Please post the provided Hepatitis A outbreak flyers in your bathrooms, kitchens and other communal areas.

If you need additional flyers, contact the Public Health Public Information Officer @ 831-566-4370.

For more information, visit www.santacruzhealth.org/hepa or contact the County Public Health Department @ 831-454-4114.

