

# Hepatitis A Virus (HAV) Alert for Food Workers

### HAV is contagious.

HAV usually spreads person-to-person through objects, food or drink that are contaminated by small amounts of stool from a person





### At-risk people

- Are in close contact, care for or live with someone who has HAV.
- Use injection or noninjection drugs.
- Are homeless or in temporary housing.
- Have recently been incarcerated.

## Are men who have had

Have recently visited a country where HAV is common.

sex with other men.

Are having sex with someone who has HAV.

# **Symptoms**

- Stomach pain
- Nausea and vomiting
- Yellow skin or eyes (jaundice)
- Diarrhea
- Loss of appetite
- Joint pain
- Pale or clay colored stool
- Fever
- Tired
- Dark-colored urine

Symptoms usually start 2–7 weeks after infection and last less than 2 months. Some people can be sick for up to 6 months.

You can have HAV for up to 2 weeks without feeling sick, but during that time, you may be spreading HAV to others.

### Staying home from work.

with HAV.

If you have some symptoms and a close friend, relative or roommate who has been diagnosed with HAV in the past 30 days, see a health care provider immediately.

### **LET YOUR BOSS KNOW IF:**

- You're seeing a health care provider because you have HAV symptoms.
- You've seen a health care provider and you have HAV.

### Don't spread HAV at work.

### Wash your hands with soap and warm water for 20 seconds:

### **BEFORE YOU**

- Prepare food.
- and working with ready-to-eat food.
- Work with food that isn't packaged.
- Change kitchen tasks.
- Handle or serve food.

- Put on disposable gloves.
- Switch between working with raw food

- Handle clean tableware and utensils.
- Handle take-out containers or utensils.
- Clean equipment.

### ALCOHOL-**BASED HAND SANITIZERS** DON'T KILL **HAV GERMS!**

### **AFTER YOU**

- Touch bare human body parts other than clean hands and arms.
- Use the restroom.
- Handle dirty equipment or utensils.
- Cough, sneeze or use a handkerchief or tissue.
- Use tobacco, eat or drink.

### Don't spread HAV outside of work.

### **DON'T SHARE:**

Towels, toothbrushes or eating utensils.

### DON'T TOUCH:

Food, drinks, drugs or cigarettes that have been handled by a person with HAV.

HAV spreads person-to-person from ingesting small amounts of fecal matter from a person with HAV. Sexual activity can spread HAV. People who are sick with HAV should avoid sexual contact.

### The vaccination is safe & effective.

- If you're at risk, you should get vaccinated.
- The vaccine is given as 2 shots, 6 months apart. You need both shots for the vaccine to work long-term.

### Contact the Florida Department of Health

### Learn more:

FloridaHealth.gov/hepa CDC.gov/Hepatitis Immunize.org/Hepatitis-A