

The hepatitis A virus (HAV) outbreak in Michigan continues and now includes 804 confirmed cases resulting in 25 deaths. The outbreak is now widespread throughout the state, but most cases have occurred in Macomb, Detroit City, Wayne, Oakland, St. Clair and Washtenaw counties. The majority of patients in this outbreak have risk factors of homelessness and/or substance use, although many patients have no known risk factors. Twenty health care workers have been infected with hepatitis A as part of this outbreak. In addition, 34 food handlers have been infected, resulting in exposures at several restaurants throughout southeast Michigan. Additional information about the outbreak can be found by [clicking here](#).

**Given the ongoing HAV burden in the community and reports of health care worker infection at other facilities, the organization is encouraging hepatitis A vaccination for nonimmune\* health care workers, students and instructors who have direct contact with patients and those who may potentially come into contact with infected stool or vomitus. Nonimmune workers have not had two doses of hepatitis A vaccine OR have not had hepatitis A infection.**

Vaccination is especially recommended for the following groups:

1. Emergency department health care workers with direct patient contact
2. Health care workers caring for patients with confirmed hepatitis A
3. Health care workers with chronic liver disease or other medical conditions requiring vaccination ([click here](#) for additional information)

**In order to ensure full immunity to hepatitis A, a second dose of vaccine is recommended 6 months or longer after the first dose.**

Michigan Medicine workforce members are able to receive the hepatitis A vaccine free of charge from

Occupational Health Services (OHS). This is a walk-in service offered Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. No appointment is necessary.

**OHS is offering the second dose of hepatitis A vaccine to those who have already received the first dose, but receipt of the second dose is considered non-urgent and can typically wait until other routine follow-up in OHS (i.e., annual visit for TB testing).**

Please contact OHS at [OccupationalHealth-RN@med.umich.edu](mailto:OccupationalHealth-RN@med.umich.edu) if you have questions about hepatitis A vaccination for Michigan Medicine workforce members.

If you have additional questions/concerns about the ongoing hepatitis A outbreak, please contact Infection Prevention & Epidemiology at 734-936-6355.