### 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 with HAV.

### At-risk people

- Are in close contact, care for or live with someone who has HAV.
- Use injection or non-injection drugs.
- Are homeless or in temporary housing.
- Have recently been incarcerated.
- Are men who have had sex with other men.
- Have recently visited a country where HAV is common.
- 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.

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 TOUCH:**

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

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

**DON’T SHARE:**

- Towels, toothbrushes or eating utensils.

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

**BEFORE YOU**

- Put on disposable gloves.
- Prepare food.
- Switch between working with raw food and working with ready-to-eat food.
- Work with food that isn’t packaged.
- Change kitchen tasks.
- Handle or serve food.
- Handle clean tableware and utensils.
- Handle take-out containers or utensils.
- Clean equipment.

### 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 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

### 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.

**Contact the Florida Department of Health**

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