

Patient name: _____

Today's date: ____/____/____
(mo.) (day) (yr.)

Identification number: _____

Should You Be Vaccinated Against Hepatitis A?

A screening questionnaire for adults



Hepatitis A is a serious liver disease caused by the hepatitis A virus (HAV). HAV is found in the feces (poop) of people with hepatitis A. Hepatitis A can be spread by having close personal contact with an infected person, such as by living with or having sex with an infected person. It can also be spread by eating food or by drinking water that has been contaminated with HAV—either when in the U.S. or when traveling in other countries. Symptoms of HAV can include yellowing of the skin and eyes, nausea, fever, fatigue, belly pain, and dark urine. You can be sick for several weeks. Sometimes hepatitis A is fatal.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends hepatitis A vaccination for all children in the United States when they are 1 year old, all people who are in risk groups, or for any person who wants to avoid HAV infection. Please review the list below to see if you should be vaccinated.

(Some people should have their blood tested to find out if they have already been infected with HAV. Talk to your healthcare provider about whether this applies to you.)

You should be vaccinated if any of the following apply to you:

- I want to be vaccinated against hepatitis A to avoid an infection in the future.
- I travel or work in areas outside the United States where hepatitis A is common. (This includes everywhere except Australia, New Zealand, Northern and Western Europe, Japan, and Canada.)
- I have (or will have) contact with an adopted child within the first 60 days of the child's arrival from a country where hepatitis A is common. (See previous bullet for locations.)
- I have chronic liver disease.
- I have a blood clotting-factor disorder (for example, hemophilia).
- I am a man who has sex with men.
- I use street drugs (injectable or noninjectable).
- I might have been exposed to the hepatitis A virus in the past two weeks.