

Patient name _____ Today's date _____ / _____ / _____
MONTH DAY YEAR

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). Hepatitis A virus 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 hepatitis A virus – either when in the U.S. or when traveling in other countries. Symptoms of hepatitis A 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 one year of age, all children and teens through age 18 who were not previously vaccinated, certain children age 6 through 11 months who are traveling outside the U.S., all adults who are in risk groups, or for adults without a risk factor but who simply want to avoid hepatitis A 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 hepatitis A. 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, Japan, Canada, and most [but not all] countries of Western Europe.)
- 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 HIV infection.
- I am a man who has sex with men.
- I use street drugs (injectable or noninjectable).
- I am homeless or live in a shelter or temporary housing.
- I am a client of a healthcare setting that targets services to injection or non-injection drug users or a resident in a group home or nonresidential daycare facility for developmentally-disabled persons.
- I might have been exposed to the hepatitis A virus in the past two weeks.