

# Hepatitis A

## HEALTH WARNING FOR PEOPLE LIVING HOMELESS (South King County)

### WHAT IS HEPATITIS A?

Hepatitis A (hep A) is a virus that spreads easily. Many people don't know they have hep A so they spread it without knowing.

It can cause severe liver disease that can last for months.

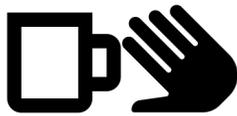
Sometimes people die from hep A.

Hep A has been spreading in people living homeless in the U.S.



### HOW DOES IT SPREAD?

Hep A is in the poop of someone with hep A. If they haven't washed their hands after using the toilet, tiny bits of poop can get on things they touch. Hep A spreads from:



Touching objects or eating food that someone with hep A handled



Having sex with someone who has hep A



Sharing needles, pipes, or other items to take drugs



**Wash your hands with soap and water** after using the toilet, and before you cook or eat! Soap and water work best, but if they aren't available, use alcohol-based hand gel.

### HOW CAN YOU PREVENT HEPATITIS A?



Don't share food, drinks, needles, or smokes with other people



Don't have sex with someone who has hep A



Use your own towels, toothbrush and utensils



Get the hep A vaccine

## SYMPTOMS OF HEPATITIS A



Fever



Fatigue



Vomiting



No appetite



Jaundice  
(yellow eyes  
& skin)



Dark pee,  
pale poop,  
diarrhea

Some people with hep A don't have any symptoms

**If you think you might have hep A, see your doctor or go to the hospital**

## YOU CAN PROTECT YOURSELF FROM HEPATITIS A

Get a free hep A vaccine shot at these locations:

### SOUTH KING COUNTY LOCATIONS:

#### Auburn Public Health Clinic

901 Auburn Way N, Suite A, Auburn  
Open Mon—Fri, daytime

#### HealthPoint Kent Urgent Care

219 State Ave N, Kent  
Open Mon-Fri, daytime

#### Federal Way Public Health Clinic

33431 13th Place S, Federal Way  
Open Mon—Fri, daytime

#### Mobile Medical Van

Various locations in South County, Mon—Thurs  
For locations, check: [Kingcounty.gov/mobilemed](http://Kingcounty.gov/mobilemed)

Most pharmacies offer the hep A shots if you have an insurance card

More information from Healthcare for the Homeless Network: [www.kingcounty.gov/hch](http://www.kingcounty.gov/hch)

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**Public Health**  
Seattle & King County

