What is Hepatitis A?

Hepatitis A is an easily spread virus that causes liver swelling and damage.

Symptoms of Hepatitis A include:

- Nausea & vomiting
- Pain in the abdomen
- Fever
- Loss of appetite
- Yellow eyes and skin (jaundice)
- Dark colored urine (often coffee colored)
- Pale colored stools/feces

Hepatitis A virus damages the liver. The liver is an organ that sits under your right rib cage.

For more information about Hepatitis A go to www.mi.gov/hepatitisAoutbreak

Help stop the spread of Hepatitis A in our community

- Protect yourself
- Protect others
- Get vaccinated
What is happening in Michigan?
There is a large outbreak of Hepatitis A in Michigan. Since August 1, 2016 many people have gotten sick with Hepatitis A and some have died. The outbreak started in Southeast Michigan and now has spread to other parts of the state including Ingham County. Many people in the current outbreak have been hospitalized.

Who is at most risk for getting and/or spreading Hepatitis A?
- People who are homeless or have an unstable living situation
- Men who have sex with other men
- People who inject drugs or use street drugs
- Persons who are incarcerated in correctional facilities
- Persons with chronic liver disease
- Anyone who is in close contact with any of the above risk groups
- Health care workers
- Food handlers

How do I get Hepatitis A?
A person can get Hepatitis A when they eat, drink or touch their mouth with food, beverages or objects (including hands and other body parts) that have come into contact with stool/feces from an infected person. Unfortunately, Hepatitis A is present in the stool/feces of an infected person long before the person actually gets ill and shows symptoms.

How do I protect myself and others from Hepatitis A?
- **Wash your hands** with soap and water after using the bathroom, after diaper changes and before handling food. Wash hands for at least 20 seconds.
- **Get vaccinated against Hepatitis A** (two shots given six months apart). If you (or someone you know) does not have health insurance, you likely qualify for free or low cost vaccines. Contact Ingham County Health Department (517-887-4308) to find out if you qualify.

Please help protect our community against Hepatitis A.
- **Read this brochure**
- **Share this information with friends and family**
- **Wash your hands**
- **Get vaccinated**

What do I do if I get sick?
If you, a friend, or a family member becomes sick, please go see a health care provider and get tested. Your health care provider will decide next steps if you test positive for Hepatitis A.

How do I get vaccinated?
For information on where and how to get vaccinated contact:
- Your health care provider
- Ingham County Health Department
- Your pharmacy

Revised 2/1/2018