



Update on Hepatitis A Outbreak and Response in Los Angeles County

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What's Hepatitis A?

- A highly contagious (spreads person-to-person) liver disease spread through contact with feces of an infected person
- Caused by the hepatitis A virus
- Cases can last for a few weeks to several months
- Can lead to severe outcomes including liver damage and death



How Can You Prevent Hepatitis A?

- Vaccination
- Improved sanitation
- Handwashing
 - Before eating or preparing food
 - After changing diapers
 - After using the bathroom
- Safe food preparation



Hepatitis A Outbreaks in California

- Cases in San Diego, as of October 10, 2017
 - 490 confirmed cases, 342 hospitalizations, 18 deaths
- Cases in Santa Cruz as of October 5, 2017
 - 73 confirmed cases, 33 hospitalizations, 1 death
- Cases in Los Angeles as of October 12, 2017
 - 13 confirmed cases, 10 hospitalizations, 0 deaths

Emergency Declaration

- On October 13th the Governor of California announced a statewide outbreak of Hepatitis A and declared a statewide Public Health Emergency
- The Emergency Declaration directs the California Department of Public Health to obtain additional Hepatitis A vaccine
- We will work closely with the State to ensure that at risk groups receive the vaccine

‘At-Risk’ Individuals

- Homeless individuals, active illicit drug users, MSM
- Clinical/Social service workers in direct physical contact with homeless individuals/active drug users
- Environmental/Sanitation workers who clean-up/inspect areas occupied by homeless people/active drug users
- Food handlers in venues that serve homeless people/active drug users
- First responders with direct physical contact with homeless people/active drug users

Containment Strategies

- Collaboration with hospitals, emergency rooms, and providers to test symptomatic at-risk individuals and coordinate appropriate follow-up with DPH
- Partnerships for 'recuperative beds' for homeless people recovering who are infectious
- Vaccination of 'close contacts'

Encouraging & Providing Vaccination

- DPH is outreaching to at-risk groups to provide education and vaccination
 - Education Outreaches: 348
 - Vaccination Outreaches: 160
 - Informational Letters: 17 stakeholder groups, including cities, homeless service providers, healthcare providers, substance use disorder treatment providers, plus 89,618 individuals
- Vaccine is available for at-risk individuals
 - DPH clinics, homeless street outreach teams, outreach events, pharmacies, health care providers, and work site occupational health units

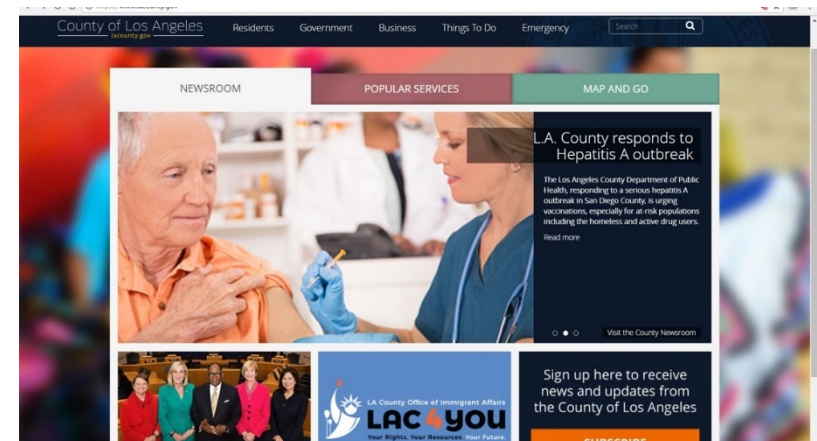
Encouraging & Providing Vaccination

- Total Doses of Hepatitis A Vaccines Administered or Distributed to Partners

Group	Vaccines
Homeless	3,430
Rehab/SUD	281
Jails/Parolees	3,028
At-Risk Workers	2,268
County Employees	1,526
Other	37
Total	10,570

Education & Public Information

- DPH is educating service providers, clinicians, and communities
 - Tele-briefings for elected officials, city managers, sanitation districts, hospitals, service providers, department heads, and unions
 - Dedicated call-center established
- Information is available to the public through the DPH website, social media, 211, and PSAs



Inspections & Environmental Intervention

- Providing outreach information to food facilities
- Providing outreach to at-risk food service workers on personal hygiene and handwashing
- Conducting surveys at homeless encampments to assess sanitation conditions and determine where additional resources are needed
- Coordinating to secure additional toilets and handwashing facilities in critical areas
- Advising on sanitation/clean up strategies

Encampment Survey Findings

Encampment	Toilets	Sinks	Showers
Skid Row	67	67	78
Hollywood	7	0	2
Venice	68	39	6
43 Smaller Encampment Sites	2	0	0
Total	144	106	86

Additional Considerations

- Continuation of new cases over an extended period of time
- Additional outbreaks occurring in other parts of the country
- Long term investments to improve sanitation at encampments