

# Hepatitis A Vaccination Priority Levels for Hospital Personnel in Response to the Hepatitis A SE Michigan Outbreak\*

Recommendations from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services<sup>1</sup>

Priority Level	Definition of Hospital Priority Groups Tiers <sup>2</sup>	Public Health Vaccination Efforts <sup>3,4</sup>
<b>Tier 1:</b> Post exposure prophylaxis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post exposure prophylaxis for anyone with identified direct exposure to patient with HAV (statewide recommendation)</li> </ul>	Hospital personnel in this tier are recommended to receive vaccine or IG within 14 days of exposure managed by hospital occupational health.
<b>Tier 2A:</b> Direct patient care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hospital emergency department providers, nurses, and techs</li> <li>• Medical/Surgical staff (where hepatitis A patients may receive care)</li> <li>• Intensive Care providers and staff who are in close contact with patients who have hepatitis A</li> <li>• Other staff who have frequent contact with patients who are homeless or use illicit drugs (injection and non-injection)</li> </ul>	Hospital personnel in this tier are recommended to receive hepatitis A vaccine as soon as available.
<b>Tier 2B:</b> Those working in patient care areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental services staff</li> <li>• Security who provide direct services in emergency department, urgent care, or inpatient units</li> <li>• Hospital food handlers and food service workers<sup>5</sup></li> </ul>	
<b>Tier 3:</b> Those who may come in contact with hepatitis A virus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laboratory personnel with direct patient contact (e.g. phlebotomists)</li> </ul>	Hospital personnel in this tier are not considered to be the highest risk group at this time, but can be offered hepatitis A vaccine.
<b>Tier 4:</b> Those not in close contact with patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General laboratory personnel</li> <li>• Office personnel</li> <li>• All other personnel</li> </ul>	Hospital personnel in this tier are not indicated to receive hepatitis A vaccine at this time.
<b>Tier 5:</b> Those working outside of the outbreak area <sup>2</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ALL hospital personnel working in hospitals outside of the outbreak area*</li> </ul>	Hospital personnel in this tier are not indicated to receive hepatitis A vaccine at this time.

<sup>1</sup>Encourage continued use of standard precautions focusing on hand washing.

<sup>2</sup>These are recommendations and should be tailored based on hospital risk assessment; as vaccine supply changes, these recommendations may be updated. If hospitals from outbreak associated jurisdictions routinely refer cases to hospitals in non-outbreak jurisdictions, these non-outbreak associated facilities should be assessed as equivalent to a hospital within an outbreak associated jurisdiction.

<sup>3</sup>Those who are routinely recommended to receive hepatitis A vaccine should receive hepatitis A vaccine regardless of outbreak vaccination strategy.

<sup>4</sup>Hepatitis A vaccinations provided to healthcare personnel should be billed to their private insurance, if available.

<sup>5</sup>Hospitals may have a policy in place for vaccinating food handlers against hepatitis A; these recommendations do not supersede any hospital policies.

\*For a list of current jurisdictions included in the outbreak area, please see: [www.michigan.gov/hepatitisaoutbreak](http://www.michigan.gov/hepatitisaoutbreak)