

HEPATITIS A: FOOD HANDLERS

Code Section: Employee Health 2-201.11, 2-201.12, 2-201.13

Hepatitis A is a very contagious liver infection that infects approximately 20,000 people in the United States each year. Hepatitis A usually spreads when a person unknowingly ingests the virus from objects, foods, or drinks contaminated by small, undetected amounts of stool from an infected person. Although a vaccine for Hepatitis A was created in 1995, it has only been administered routinely in the past decade. **Many food handlers have not been vaccinated for Hepatitis A, and if the virus is contracted, they can unknowingly contaminate food and make people sick.**

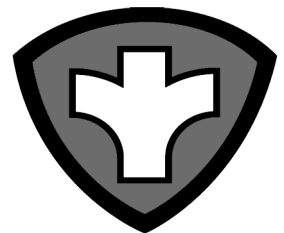


Prevent the Spread of Hepatitis A

- ◆ Wash hands properly—wet hands, wash hands for 20 seconds with soap and warm water, rinse hands, dry hands, and always turn off the faucet with a barrier to avoid recontamination
- ◆ Wash hands often
- ◆ Wash exposed portions of your arms after engaging in activities that contaminate hands
- ◆ Never touch ready-to-eat foods with bare hands
- ◆ Follow your Employee Health Policy—Only work symptom-free!

Symptoms of Hepatitis A

- ◆ Vomiting
- ◆ Diarrhea
- ◆ Abdominal Cramps
- ◆ Fever
- ◆ Fatigue
- ◆ Loss of Appetite
- ◆ Dark Urine
- ◆ Clay-Colored Stools
- ◆ Jaundice (yellowing of eyes and skin)



If you have symptoms of Hepatitis A, DO NOT GO TO WORK!

Tell your manager or the Person in Charge if:

- ◆ You have symptoms of Hep A
- ◆ You are diagnosed with Hep A
- ◆ Someone you've had close contact with has Hep A

For more information on Hep A visit <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hav/index.htm>

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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