


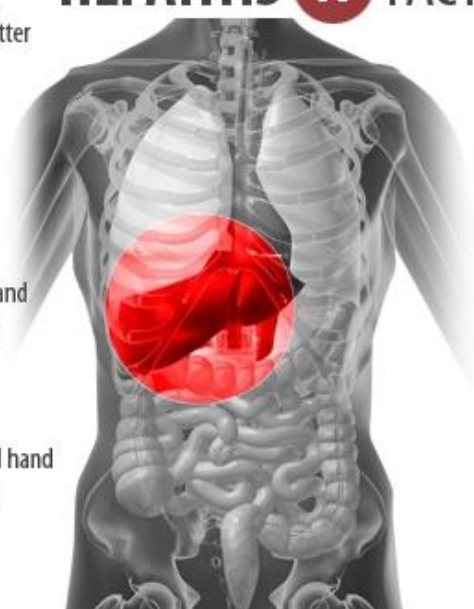
HEPATITIS A FACTS

1 Is a viral infection of the liver spread when faecal matter enters the mouth





2 May last several weeks and can be debilitating but most people recover completely

3 Preventable with careful hand washing, keeping toilets and bathrooms clean, avoiding infected water sources





SYMPTOMS INCLUDE


nausea 

vomiting 

SPREAD BY

direct contact 

food & beverages 

cups & spoons 

and any other objects handled by the infected person

Hepatitis A Outbreak Stats:

- Total number of foodborne hepatitis A outbreaks, 1998-2011: 81 (average of 6 outbreaks per year, range 1 to 12 outbreak per year)
- Total number of outbreak illnesses: 2,202 (Since June 4, 2014)
- Outbreak-associated hospitalizations: 290
- Outbreak-associated deaths: 8
- Most common food products implicated: **Vegetables (often salads) and fruit as well as seafood, ice, milk products and sandwiches.**

What can I do?

Vaccinate: There is a very safe and effective vaccine that can provide long term immunity to Hepatitis A infection. It is available at many pharmacies and physician offices as well as the Health Department, where it is also available at no cost to those without health insurance.

Handwashing: Handwashing is the most effective way to prevent the spread of infectious disease.

Feeling Sick?: Know the symptoms. Vomiting, diarrhea, jaundice (yellow skin); stay home and report this to your manager.