



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

October 22, 2018

Dear Community Partners,

HEPATITIS A IS HERE IN BUTLER COUNTY—Protect Yourself

Butler County is leading Ohio for the number of cases of hepatitis A

As of October 22, 2018, we have had 127 cases linked to a statewide outbreak. In the past 5 years, we have averaged 1 case/year.

The Butler County Health District, City of Hamilton Health Department, and City of Middletown Health Department would like to take this opportunity to discuss Hepatitis A vaccination recommendations.

Hepatitis A is a vaccine-preventable illness and vaccinating high risk individuals or those who have contact with high risk individuals is one way we can stop this outbreak.

The following groups are considered to be at highest risk in this outbreak and should be vaccinated:

- All close contacts of persons diagnosed with hepatitis A (if not previously vaccinated, contacts should receive prophylactic vaccination within 2 weeks of exposure, or onset of jaundice in the ill person)
- Persons who use injection and non-injection illicit drugs including marijuana
- Persons who are experiencing homelessness or who are in transient living conditions
- Persons currently or recently incarcerated
- Men who have sex with men
- Persons with chronic liver disease, cirrhosis, hepatitis B or C, or at risk for complications from hepatitis A
- Persons who work with or have close contact with the high risk populations
- Persons in food handling/food preparation jobs who are also in the high risk groups

Others who may also be offered the hepatitis A vaccination include:

- All children (routine vaccination)
- Persons who are at increased risk for infection
- Anyone who wants protection against Hepatitis A infection

If you are a health care provider, please assist us in this outbreak by stocking and offering each and every patient a vaccination for hepatitis A if they fit one of the high risk groups listed above.

If you are a member of the public, live or work with high risk groups, please ask your health care provider, CVS, Walgreens, Kroger, Meijer, Walmart, other retail clinic, or urgent care about vaccination. Local health departments may also offer the hepatitis A shots. See phone numbers below.


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For our weekly Butler County Hepatitis A Outbreak Report and other additional information, please visit <http://health.bcoho.us/>

Thank you,



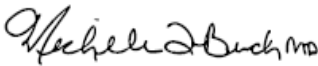
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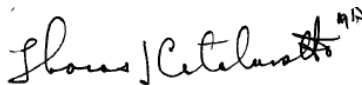
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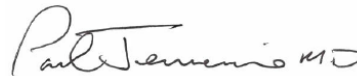
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