

HEPATITIS A

WHAT IS HEP A?

Hepatitis A, also known as 'hep A,' is a very **contagious liver disease** people get from contact with the feces (poop) of an infected person. It can cause debilitating symptoms, liver failure, & very rarely death, but most people recover completely without permanent liver damage or complications.

HOW DO I AVOID IT?

1. Always **wash your hands** after using a toilet or changing a diaper, & before preparing food, eating, or serving others.
2. Don't share food, drinks, or cigarettes.
3. Get the hepatitis A vaccine. (It's available at the health department for adults & children.)



WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW?

- Babies & young children often don't have symptoms, but they can still spread the disease.
- As of June 2017, children in Kentucky must have the hepatitis A vaccination to attend daycare, preschool programs, & public or private schools.

