

Exercise Scenario – Hepatitis A Restaurant Outbreak

ICS FOR LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH TRAINING TOOL

Today is March 17, 2018. You have been notified by MDH of two confirmed hepatitis A cases in two food service workers at a local buffet-style restaurant in your town/county. This restaurant is popular among families with children and especially with the over 65-age crowd.

Upon interviewing the food service workers, MDH discovered the two workers are dating each other and are sexually active. One admitted to working while having symptoms of stomach cramps and diarrhea on March 11. The other food service worker also helped prepare food for a Sunday pancake breakfast fundraiser at her local church on March 11.

The MN Department of Health recommends patrons who frequented the restaurant from February 25th through March 16th and all persons who attended the pancake breakfast on March 11 should seek post-exposure prophylaxis. To prevent an outbreak of more hepatitis A cases, the MN Department of Health recommends local public health host post-exposure prophylaxis clinics to provide the following:

- immune globulin for those under 12 months of age
- hepatitis A vaccine for those 12 months of age and older.

A person with hepatitis A can spread the disease beginning two weeks before symptoms develop until one week after the onset of jaundice. If a person does not have jaundice, he or she can spread the disease for two weeks after the start of symptoms.

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