



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
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## Hepatitis A Alert Information Sheet

### Hepatitis A Case Alert in Hamilton Township

On December 1, 2014, the Hamilton Township Department of Health was informed by the New Jersey Department of Health of a confirmed case of **Hepatitis A** involving a food worker employed at Rosa's Restaurant and Catering located at 3442 South Broad Street in Hamilton Township, New Jersey.

Health officials warn that people who ate at this restaurant or catered from this restaurant from November 10, 2014 through December 1, 2014 may be at risk for developing Hepatitis A if they have not been previously vaccinated with the **Hepatitis A** vaccine. Unvaccinated individuals who ate there should receive an injection of immune globulin or Hepatitis A vaccine if their exposure occurred from November 10, 2014 through December 1, 2014. These individuals should contact their primary care providers or if uninsured their local health department to receive the immunization. Both immune globulin and **Hepatitis A** vaccine can prevent infection with the hepatitis A virus if given within 14 days of exposure.

### Hepatitis A Symptoms

The early signs and symptoms of **Hepatitis A** appear 2-6 weeks after exposure and commonly include the following: **mild fever, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, tiredness, pain in the upper right side of the abdomen under the rib cage, dark urine and jaundice** (yellowing of the eyes or skin).

The disease varies in severity, with mild cases lasting two weeks or less and more severe cases lasting 4-6 weeks or longer. Some individuals especially children, may not develop jaundice and may have an illness so mild that it can go unnoticed. However, even persons with mild symptoms can be highly infectious. Persons with symptoms suggestive of **Hepatitis A** should consult a physician even if symptoms are mild.

Persons who ate at Rosa's Restaurant and Catering from November 10, 2014 to December 1, 2014 are urged to be particularly thorough with hand washing after toileting and prior to food preparation to avoid any potential for further spread of disease. They should not prepare or handle food for anyone outside of their immediate family.

At all times, hand washing should include vigorous washing of hands with soap and running warm water for a minimum of 20 seconds. All surfaces should be washed down including the back of the hands, wrists, between fingers and under the fingernails.

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Learn more about **Hepatitis A** can be viewed at <http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/ChooseA.htm>

### **Hepatitis A Vaccination Information**

For unvaccinated individuals who have contacted their primary care providers and been informed that their doctor/physician does not have supplies of the **Hepatitis A** vaccine or immune globulin, an individual's doctor/physician can write a prescription for the vaccination to a pharmacy that has available supplies of the vaccine. Once an individual obtains the prescription, it can be brought to their primary care provider (doctor/physician) to be properly administered.