

Cumberland Valley District Health Department

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Hepatitis A Confirmed in Employee of Local Restaurant

11/16/2018 - Manchester, KY An employee at McDonald's in Manchester, located at 40 Muddy Gap Road, has tested positive for Hepatitis A. This employee did not handle food directly and was in a service focused role. The transmission risk to guests and employees who've visited the restaurant is deemed low.

The restaurant is fully cooperating with the health department to ensure the health and safety of all employees and guests. McDonald's is committed to providing a clean and safe environment for all who visit the restaurant. Management voluntarily closed the restaurant for thorough cleaning and sanitation on November 16th. All employees have been offered the Hepatitis A vaccine.

Anyone who dined at McDonald's in Manchester between October 30th and November 16th can seek further protection from becoming ill by getting a Hepatitis A vaccination. The Hepatitis A vaccine should be taken within two weeks of possible exposure, or no later than November 30th, 2018.

The Hepatitis A vaccine is covered by most health insurance plans and is available at doctor's offices, most pharmacies, and at the Clay County Health Department. For more information, contact the health department at 606-598-2425.

Anyone who consumed food or drinks at McDonald's in Manchester from October 30th through November 16th is also asked to:

1. Monitor their health for symptoms of hepatitis A infection up to 50 days after exposure.
2. Wash their hands with soap and warm water frequently and thoroughly, especially after using the bathroom and before preparing food.
3. Stay at home and contact their healthcare provider immediately if symptoms of hepatitis A infection develop.

Careful hand washing, including under the fingernails, with soap and water, along with vaccination of anyone at risk of infection, will prevent the spread of this disease.

Hepatitis A is a viral infection of the liver that can cause loss of appetite, nausea, tiredness, fever, stomach pain, brown colored urine, and light-colored stools. Yellowing of the skin or eyes may also appear. People can become ill up to 7 weeks after being exposed to the virus.

Hepatitis A usually spreads when a person unknowingly ingests the virus from objects, food, or drinks contaminated by small, undetected amounts of stool from an infected person. The virus spreads when an infected person does not wash his/her hands adequately after using the toilet or engages in behaviors that increase risk of infection.

For additional information about Hepatitis A, call the Clay County Health Department at 606-598-2425 or visit our website at www.cvdhealthdept.com

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