

Communicable Disease Branch

2018 Program Alert

"Post Exposure Prophylaxis Recommendations for Exposure to Hepatitis A Case Working at Charlotte Hardees on June 13 – 23, 2018"

Date: June 27, 2018



To: Communicable Disease Staff in Local Health Departments

From: Nicole Lee, Foodborne Epidemiologist

The purpose of this Program Alert is to provide additional guidance in response to Hepatitis A diagnosis in a food handler at a Hardee's Restaurant (2604 Little Rock Road, Charlotte) in Mecklenburg County. Hep A vaccine is being offered and sent to counties surrounding Mecklenburg County. Other counties across the state may have residents that have been exposed and should follow the guidance given below for requests for vaccine. In order to expedite prompt post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) please see the attached press release for times and dates of potential exposure.

Exposure dates

The employee diagnosed with Hepatitis A worked while infectious from Wednesday, June 13, 2018 through Saturday, June 23, 2018. PEP is effective when given within 2 weeks of exposure.

PEP recommendations

Vaccine should be used if IG cannot be obtained. IG is being recommended for the following groups: Infants less than 12 months of age, adults over the age of 70, immunocompromised individuals, those with chronic liver disease and IV drug users. Vaccine is being recommended for all other groups.

Requests for vaccine

The Immunization Branch is sending vaccine directly to the following counties upon request in response to this Hardees Hep A exposure: Cabarrus, Catawba, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Rowan, Stanly, and Union.

The Immunization Branch will supply vaccine to other counties with residents exposed during the period of interest using the following process:

- Requests for state supplied vaccine in response to this Hardees Hep A exposure can be sent directly to the Immunization Branch using the attached Hep A Vaccine Order form.
- Requests for state supplied IG in response to this Hardees Hep A exposure can be sent through the normal channels of contacting Epi On Call where you will need to provide the following information:
 1. The weight of the person(s) you are requesting IG
 2. LHD contact person for delivery
 3. Phone number
 4. Address for delivery

If you have an immediate need for IG you can always contact your local hospital for supply and the Immunization Branch will replace it upon your request.

Vaccine Reporting

All doses must be entered into the NCIR. In addition, the aggregate count of doses administered in relation to this specific event, must be reported back to the IB by COB each Friday using the attached Hep A Doses Administered Report Form. Please see the form for additional instructions.

Press Release

Mecklenburg County issued a press release on Tuesday, June 26, 2018, and it is attached.