



## Washtenaw County Health Department

### For Immediate Release

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### Washtenaw County Health Department Adds Evening Hours for Hepatitis A Vaccination *Most local adults not vaccinated*

YPSILANTI, Mich., Feb. 7, 2018 – Washtenaw County Health Department continues to respond to a hepatitis A outbreak among adults in Washtenaw and other Michigan counties. The hepatitis A vaccine is extremely effective, but most adults are not vaccinated. Evening walk-in hours begin Monday, Feb. 12 from 6 to 8 pm at 555 Towner St., Ypsilanti. Please arrive by 7:30 pm and bring your Medicaid or insurance card, if applicable.

“The best way for us to stop this outbreak is to get more adults vaccinated,” said Jane Nickert, MSN, MSBA, nursing director with Washtenaw County Health Department. “We want to make sure vaccination is available to people who cannot schedule daytime appointments or who have unpredictable schedules.”

The Health Department and local health care providers have given over 6,000 doses of hepatitis A vaccine to adults since October, but over 70 percent of local adults remain unvaccinated (Michigan Care Improvement Registry 2018).

Walk-in hours will continue on the second and fourth Mondays of the month from 6 to 8 pm through February, March, and April. Appointments during normal business hours remain available by calling 734-544-6700.

Hepatitis A is a serious, highly contagious liver disease caused by the hepatitis A virus. The virus is found in the feces (poop) of people with hepatitis A. It is spread by eating contaminated food or water, during sex, or from close contact with an infected person.

Since the outbreak began in Michigan in 2016, there have been 727 cases and 24 deaths. In Washtenaw County, a total of 14 cases have been connected to the larger outbreak, and 11 of those cases have been reported since October 2017.

Hepatitis A vaccination is available to all, while supplies last. Washtenaw County Health Department has vaccine available at [no additional cost](#) for people without insurance, with Medicaid, or who have specific risks or work in certain jobs. For all others, vaccination is available but fees may apply. If you have health insurance, check with your health care provider first. Please call 734-544-6700 with questions.

**There's a HEPATITIS A OUTBREAK**

Most Washtenaw County adults are **NOT vaccinated** against hepatitis A

**You can #StopHepA**

Wash your hands

Get vaccinated 734-544-6700

Washtenaw County Health Department  
publichealth.ewashtenaw.org

Updates will be available on the Health Department [website](#) and on our social media @wcpublihealth or #StopHepA. For more about the larger Michigan outbreak, see [www.mi.gov/hepatitisaoutbreak](http://www.mi.gov/hepatitisaoutbreak).

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