

# HEPATITIS A

## HEALTH WARNING FOR ENCAMPMENT OPERATORS

### WHAT IS HEPATITIS A?

- Hepatitis A (Hep A) is a virus that spreads easily. Many people don't know that they have Hep A so they spread it without knowing.
- It can cause severe liver disease that can last for months.
- Sometimes people die from Hep A.
- Hep A has been spreading in people living homeless in the U.S., especially in crowded encampments without adequate sanitation.

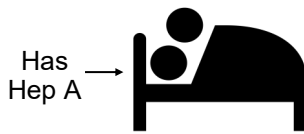


### HOW DOES IT SPREAD?

Hep A is in the poop of someone with Hep A. If they haven't washed their hands after using the toilet, tiny bits of poop can get on things they touch. Hep A spreads from:



Touching objects or eating food that someone with Hep A handled



Having sex with someone who has Hep A

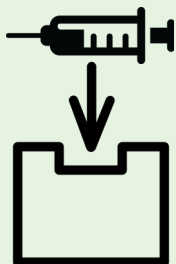


Sharing needles, pipes, or other items to take drugs

### KEEP ENCAMPMENTS SAFE & CLEAN

Encampment Operators **must** provide adequate sanitation and hygiene facilities:

- Make handwashing accessible and next to food prep areas and toilets.
- Always stock handwashing stations with soap and water. **Soap and water work best**, but if not available, provide 70% alcohol hand gel.
- Encourage handwashing among residents, especially before eating and after using the toilet.
- Clean toileting areas multiple times a week.
- Stock toilet paper and cleaning supplies (gloves, bleach or bleach wipes, garbage bags) for cleaning toilets.
- Ensure sharps containers are available.
- Anyone with Hep A should NOT prepare or serve food to others.



For more information, please go to [www.snohd.org/hepatitis](http://www.snohd.org/hepatitis).

Thanks to Public Health—Seattle & King County for adaptation of their materials.