

Hepatitis A Vaccine (shot)

What is hepatitis A?

Hepatitis A is a virus. It causes a serious illness that can damage your liver.

You can get hepatitis A by:

- eating infected food or drinking infected water. This may happen if someone doesn't wash their hands before making your food.
- living with someone who has hepatitis A
- having sex with someone who has hepatitis A

Is hepatitis A serious?

Yes. If you get hepatitis A, you may be sick for weeks or months. Your skin and eyes can turn yellow. You may need to stay at the hospital. Some people die from hepatitis A. Some people with hepatitis A don't feel sick. But they can still spread the virus to others.

Am I at risk for hepatitis A?

You are more likely to get hepatitis A if you:

- travel outside of the U.S.
- have liver disease
- shoot drugs
- have sex without condoms
- take care of a child who has recently come from a country where hepatitis A is common

Even if you don't think you are at risk for hepatitis A, you should get the hepatitis A vaccine.

How can I protect myself from hepatitis A?

Talk to your doctor about getting the hepatitis A vaccine today if you have not had it. Often, you get the vaccine when you are a baby. But you can get the vaccine at any age.

To get the full vaccine, you need to get 2 shots.

Here is when you should get the shots:

- Get the 1st shot now.
- Get the 2nd shot 6 months after the 1st shot.

You must get both shots to be protected from hepatitis A.

When should I come back for my next shots?

<input type="checkbox"/>	January	<input type="checkbox"/>	May	<input type="checkbox"/>	September
<input type="checkbox"/>	February	<input type="checkbox"/>	June	<input type="checkbox"/>	October
<input type="checkbox"/>	March	<input type="checkbox"/>	July	<input type="checkbox"/>	November
<input type="checkbox"/>	April	<input type="checkbox"/>	August	<input type="checkbox"/>	December