

What is hepatitis A?

- ❑ Viral illness, transmitted via the fecal-oral route
 - Direct physical contact
 - Touching contaminated surfaces, then ingesting it (hand to mouth transmission)
 - Eating contaminated foods
- ❑ Very effective vaccination available
 - Typically provides life-long protection
- ❑ Handwashing is still the most effective prevention tool



Watch for
symptoms

Symptoms of HEPATITIS A infection

- Fever
- Fatigue
- Headache/body ache
- Loss of appetite
- Nausea
- Stomach pain
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Yellow skin and eyes
- Dark colored urine
- Pale colored stools

General Situational Awareness

132 acute cases of
Hepatitis A have been
confirmed since
August 2017

Historical Trends

	1999
17	2000
7	2001
5	2002
4	2003
3	2004
2	2005
1	2006
1	2007
3	2008
0	2009
4	2010
3	2011
3	2012
1	2013
1	2014
1	2015
2	2016
53	2017
76	2018

Hep A Outbreak High Risk Groups

☐ People Who Use Drugs

- Sharing accessories (not blood borne)
- Gatherings and common sites

☐ People experiencing homelessness, unstable housing

- Sharing of contaminated objects
- Lacking access to handwashing facilities

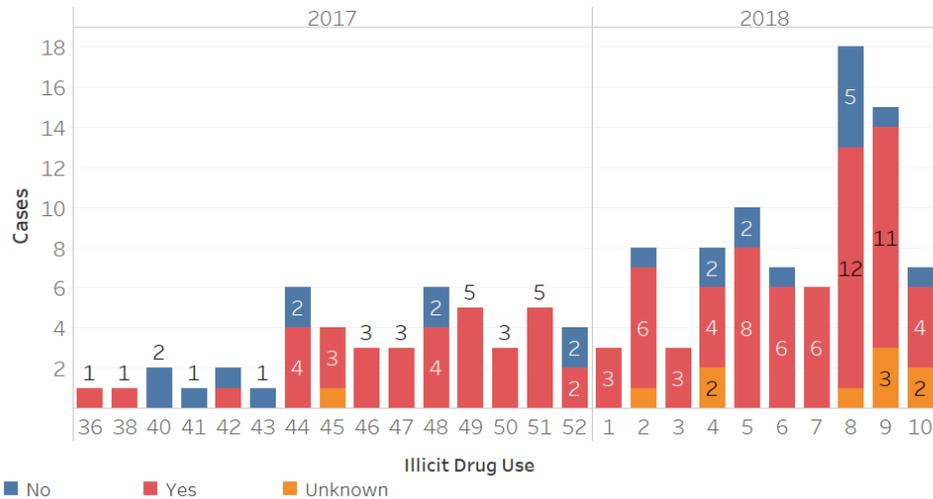
☐ People with chronic liver disease (alcohol abuse and co-infection with HEP B and C)

Epidemiological Update

KY17-089 Epi Curve



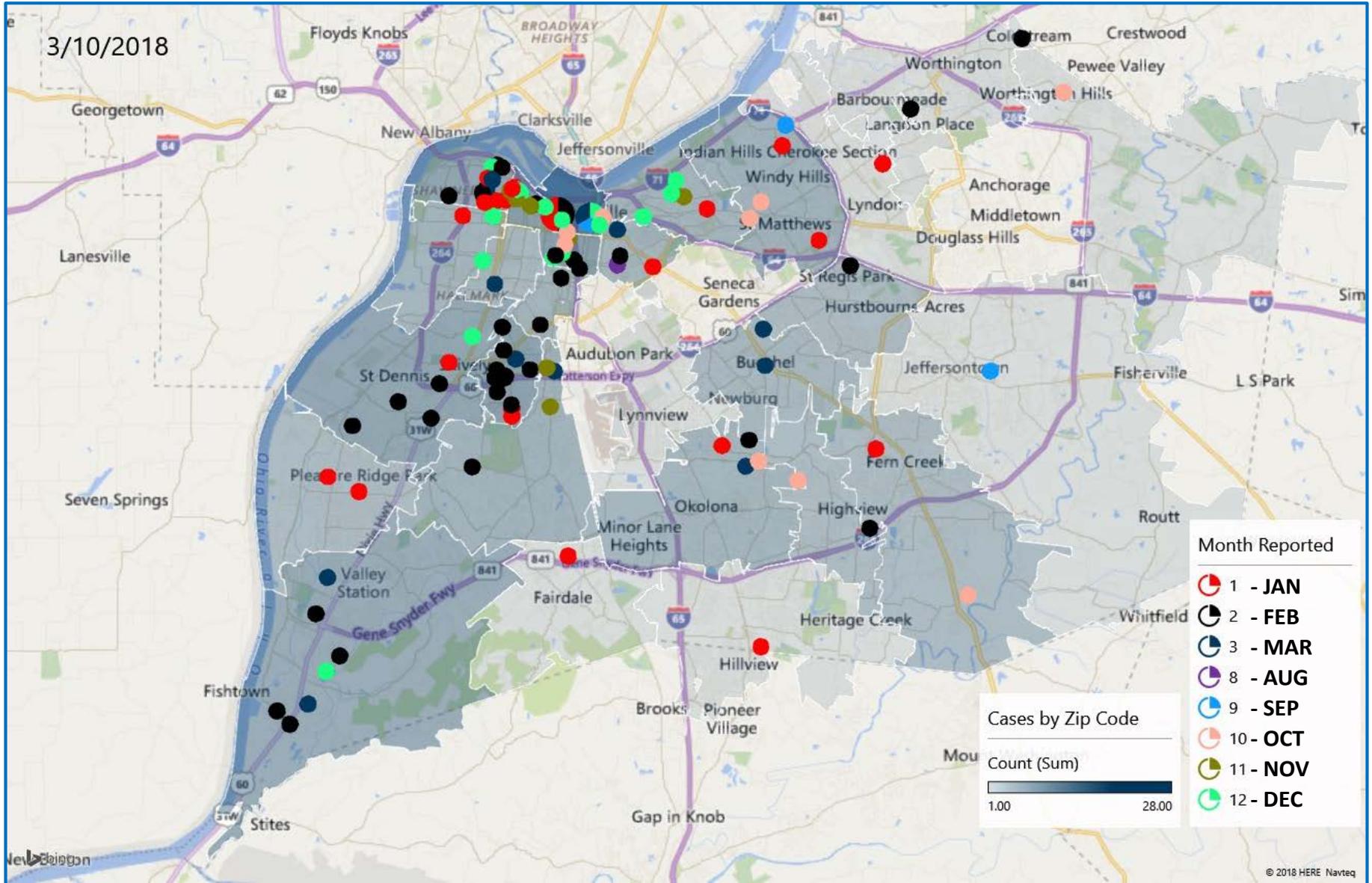
Epi Curve by Illicit Drug Use



EC by Homeless



HEP A Case Distribution



Response by the Numbers

- ❑ Emergency response team activated
- ❑ Targeting those most at risk
- ❑ Invaluable support from community partners
- ❑ 6,732 vaccinations
- ❑ 30 different fixed facility locations
- ❑ 20 different street outreach locations
- ❑ 30 different vaccinations events every week
- ❑ 2,250 hours worked from LMPHW staff
- ❑ 140 volunteer hours from the Louisville Metro Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)
- ❑ \$127,000 in salary and equipment/supplies spent so far

New gold standard

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has praised Louisville's response to the hepatitis A outbreak calling it the "gold standard" and a model for other cities to emulate



Future Operations

- ❑ Continue vaccination efforts at targeted sites
 - Syringe Exchange and mobile syringe exchange programs
 - Street outreach events
 - Recovery centers and locations
 - Shelters
 - Feeding sites
- ❑ Coordinate vaccinations for food handlers
- ❑ Coordinate with the KY Derby Festival for increased sanitation at mass events (Thunder)

New School Requirement

- **All** students in kindergarten through twelfth grade must show proof of having received two doses of Hepatitis A vaccine to attend school, and
- **Students aged 16 years or older**, must show proof of having received two doses of Meningococcal ACWY vaccine (MenACWY) to attend school. If the first dose of MenACWY was received at age sixteen (16) years or older, the second dose is not required for school entry.



Key Points

- ❑ Encourage people to practice good hygiene (hand washing with soap and water)
- ❑ The HEP A vaccine is safe, very effective and covered by insurance, encourage:
 - People who use drugs or are homeless or housing insecure to get vaccinated
 - People who associate with people who use drugs or those who are homeless or housing insecure to get vaccinated
- ❑ If people suspect exposure they should see their health care provider immediately

FIGHT HEPATITIS A

It starts with you

Hepatitis A is a contagious liver infection. The virus is found in the stool of people with the infection and is usually spread by consuming food or water contaminated with the virus.



Get Vaccinated



Stay home
if you are sick



Wash your
hands



Been in contact with
someone who has
Hepatitis A?

WHO IS AT RISK FOR HEP A?

- The homeless
- Travelers to countries where Hep A is common
- Those that live with a person already infected
- Men who have sexual contact with other men
- Individuals who use illegal drugs, whether injected or not
- If you've had sexual contact with someone who has Hep A

TALK TO
YOUR DOCTOR
OR HEALTH CARE
PROVIDER
RIGHT AWAY



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symptoms

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- Dark colored urine
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Clean Hands Save Lives

**Wash your hands to
stop germs and stay healthy!**



Scrub your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds:

- ◆ After you use the bathroom
- ◆ Before handling and eating food
- ◆ Frequently throughout the day

Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness
400 E Gray Street Louisville, KY 40202 (502) 574-6520



Protect yourself from Hepatitis A

Get vaccinated



**and wash your hands after using
the restroom and before eating.**



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Educational posters shared with homeless shelters, feeding sites.

URGENT! There is an outbreak of HEPATITIS A IN LOUISVILLE

If you are homeless or use drugs you are at great risk of getting it. Hepatitis A affects your liver and can make you very sick.

Go to the emergency room immediately if you have these symptoms:

FEVER	PALE COLORED STOOL
STOMACH PAIN	DARK COLORED URINE
VOMITING	FATIGUE HEADACHE OR BODY ACHE
NAUSEA	YELLOW SKIN AND EYES
DIARRHEA	LOSS OF APPETITE

The best way to protect yourself from Hepatitis A is to:



Get
Vaccinated
and



Wash your
hands with
soap and
water

If you are homeless or use drugs, go to one of these locations to get vaccinated for **FREE**:

Phoenix Health Center for the Homeless
712 E. Muhammad Ali Blvd.
502-587-6883

Shawnee Christian Healthcare
234 Amy Avenue Louisville, KY 40212
502-778-0001

Louisville Syringe Exchange Program
Louisville Dept. of Public Health and Wellness
400 E. Gray St.
502-574-6520

Street Outreach 502-780-3222



¡URGENTE! Hay un brote de

HEPATITIS A EN LOUISVILLE

Si usted es una persona sin hogar o que consume drogas, corre gran riesgo de contraerla. La hepatitis A ataca el hígado y puede afectarle gravemente. Acuda inmediatamente a una sala de emergencias si presenta alguno de estos síntomas:

La mejor manera de prevenir la hepatitis A es:



Vacunarse y



Lavarse las manos con
agua y jabón

FIEBRE
DOLOR DE ESTÓMAGO
VÓMITOS
NÁUSEAS
DIARRHEA
HECES DE COLOR PÁLIDO
ORINA DE COLOR OSCURO
FATIGA, DOLOR DE CABEZA O CORPORAL
PIEL Y OJOS AMARILLENOS
PÉRDIDA DE APETITO

Si no tiene un hogar o consume drogas, acuda a una de estas ubicaciones para vacunarse **SIN COSTE**:

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712 E. Muhammad Ali Blvd.
502-587-6883

Shawnee Christian Healthcare
234 Amy Avenue Louisville, KY 40212
502-778-0001

Louisville Syringe Exchange Program
Louisville Dept. of Public Health and Wellness
400 E. Gray St.
502-574-6520

Atención en la calle 502-780-3222



Postcard shared during 2018
Homeless PIT Count, during
street outreach



Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)

An Important Message to Food Service Establishments

Currently there is a Hepatitis A outbreak in Louisville. As of this week we are up to 43 cases. The people most at risk right now are the homeless, people who use drugs, and people who work in close regular contact with those populations.

The risk of hepatitis A infection is associated with poor sanitation and hygiene and is transmitted through ingestion of contaminated food and drink or through direct contact with an infectious person. The virus can live for months in a contaminated environment, particularly in the absence of good sanitation.

We strongly encourage you to be vigilant with your employees in emphasizing good hygiene and sanitation practices. To prevent the spread of hepatitis A from an infected food worker to co-workers and/or restaurant patrons, **food workers should never touch ready-to-eat foods with bare hands, and should carefully wash their hands after using the bathroom**, even if the food worker does not feel sick. Food workers should never work while they are sick with stomach (gastrointestinal) illnesses.

The best way to prevent hepatitis A is to be vaccinated. We recommend that you encourage your employees to get the hepatitis A vaccine from their own healthcare provider or a local pharmacy such as Walgreens or Kroger. ([The Affordable Care Act](#) mandates that preventive vaccines be given without charging a copayment or coinsurance.)

[CLICK HERE](#) to read additional information that you may find helpful with regard to talking with sick employees.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read more information about hepatitis A.

Communications to food service establishments, educational visits by food safety inspectors

