

10/10/17

## HEPATITIS A OUTBREAK CLINICAL ADVISORY

Outbreaks of Hepatitis A disease are currently ongoing in two California counties in persons who are homeless and/or using illicit drugs. In San Diego County, at least 228 cases and 5 deaths have been reported since November 2016.

The California Department of Public Health recommends we offer the hepatitis A vaccine (HAV) to persons who are homeless or might be using illicit injection or non-injection drugs.

**If you are having challenges accessing the Hepatitis A vaccine or making this available to Community Health Group (CHG) members, please refer our members to a pharmacy contracted with CHG. The pharmacy will provide the vaccine at no cost to CHG members. For additional information, please contact Charles Lino at [clino@chgsd.com](mailto:clino@chgsd.com).**

HAV vaccine is routinely recommended for:

- Persons with chronic liver disease, including those with hepatitis B or C virus (HBV or HCV) infection.
- Users of injection and non-injection illicit drugs.
- Men who have sex with men.
- Persons traveling to or working in countries that have high or intermediate levels of HAV transmission.
- Any person wishing to obtain immunity to HAV.
- Persons who have been exposed to HAV in the prior 2 weeks and are not known to be immune (immune globulin is an alternative to vaccine or given in addition to vaccine in some instances).

