

HEPATITIS A VACCINATION RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends hepatitis A vaccination for the following persons:

Children:

- All children aged 1 year (i.e., aged 12-23 months);
- Children aged 2–18 years in states with existing hepatitis A vaccination programs (this includes California) as these states have historically higher rates of hepatitis A infection

Adults:

- Persons with chronic liver disease
- Persons receiving clotting factor concentrates
- Men who have sex with men
- Persons who use illegal drugs
- Persons working with hepatitis A virus (HAV) infected primates or with HAV in a research laboratory setting
- Persons traveling to or working in countries that have high or intermediate endemicity of hepatitis A (a list of countries is available at www.cdc.gov/travel/diseases.htm)
- Any person who would like to obtain immunity

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health recommends that all adults living in the County receive the hepatitis A vaccine, if not already immune, as a preventive measure. Vaccinating all adults will not only protect persons in high-risk groups but others who may be exposed to the virus. In 2006, 35% of the reported hepatitis A cases in Los Angeles County had no known risk factors for infection.