# Hepatitis A (Hep A) Routine, Catch-up and At-risk Vaccine Protocol

VACCINE PROTOCOL FOR persons age 6 months and older

**Document reviewed and updated:** **June 6, 2023**

## Condition for protocol

To reduce incidence of morbidity and mortality of hepatitis A disease.

## Policy of protocol

The nurse will implement this protocol for hepatitis A vaccination.

## Condition-specific criteria and prescribed actions

**Delete this entire paragraph before printing/signing protocol.**

[Instructions for persons adopting these protocols: The table below lists indication, contraindication, and precaution criteria and suggested prescribed actions that are necessary to implement the vaccine protocol. The prescribed actions include examples shown in brackets but may not suit your institution’s clinical situation and may not include all possible actions. A licensed prescriber must review the criteria and actions and determine the appropriate prescribing action.]

Indications

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Criteria | Prescribed action |
| Person is currently healthy and age 6 months or older. | Proceed to vaccinate if meets remaining criteria and has no contraindications or precautions. |
| Person is age 12 through 23 months. | Proceed to vaccinate using routine vaccination schedule. |
| Person is age 2 through 18 years and has not completed or initiated hepatitis A vaccination series. | Proceed to vaccinate, follow catch-up intervals. |
| Person is more than 1 month behind routine schedule. | Proceed to vaccinate, follow catch-up intervals. |
| Person is age 6 months or older and plans to travel or work in countries with high or intermediate endemic hepatitis A. | Proceed to vaccinate, follow international travel schedule. |
| Person is age 18 years or older and at risk for hepatitis A virus infection due to:   * Chronic liver disease (e.g., persons with hepatitis B, hepatitis C, cirrhosis, fatty liver disease, alcoholic liver disease, autoimmune hepatitis, alanine aminotransferase [ALT] or aspartate aminotransferase [AST] level greater than twice the upper limit of normal) * HIV infection * Men who have sex with men * Injection or noninjection drug use * Persons experiencing homelessness * Work with hepatitis A virus in research laboratory or with nonhuman primates with hepatitis A virus infection * Pregnancy if at risk for infection or severe outcome from infection during pregnancy * Settings for exposure, including health care settings targeting services to injection or noninjection drug users or group homes and nonresidential day care facilities for developmentally disabled persons (individual risk factor screening not required) | Proceed to vaccinate, follow at risk schedule. |
| Close, personal contact with international adoptee (e.g., household, or regular babysitting) in first 60 days after arrival from country with high or intermediate endemic hepatitis A. | Proceed to vaccinate using at risk schedule, administer dose 1 as soon as adoption is planned, at least 2 weeks before adoptee’s arrival. |
| Person is age 18 years or older and not at risk for hepatitis A virus infection. | Proceed to vaccinate, follow catch-up intervals. |

Contraindications

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Criteria | Prescribed action |
| Person had a severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) to a previous dose of hepatitis A vaccine. | Do not vaccinate; \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Person has a severe allergy to a component of hepatitis A vaccine, including neomycin. | Do not vaccinate; \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

Precautions

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Criteria | Prescribed action |
| If person is currently on antibiotic therapy. | Proceed to vaccinate. |
| Person has a mild illness defined as temperature less than \_\_\_\_°F/°C with symptoms such as: {to be determined by medical prescriber} | Proceed to vaccinate. |
| Person has a moderate to severe illness defined as temperature \_\_\_\_°F/°C or higher with symptoms such as: {to be determined by medical prescriber} | Defer vaccination and [to be determined by medical prescriber] |

## Prescription

Havrix 720 Elisa Units (0.5 ml) or Vaqta 25 Units (0.5 ml), IM for persons 6 months through 18 years.

OR

Havrix 1440 Elisa Units (1 ml) or Vaqta 50 units (1 ml), IM for persons 19 years and older.

### Routine vaccination

2-dose series 0.5 mL, IM (minimum interval: 6 months) at age 12–23 months.

### Catch-up schedule

**For persons age 12 months through 18 years:**

* Unvaccinated persons through age 18 years should complete a 2-dose series 0.5 mL, IM (minimum interval: 6 months).

**For persons 19 years and older:**

* 2-dose series 1 mL, IM (minimum interval: 6 months).

### At risk vaccination schedule

**For persons age 19 years and older:**

* 2-dose series 1 mL, IM (minimum interval: 6 months).

### International travel vaccination schedule

* **Infants age 6 through 11 months:**
  + Give one dose 0.5 mL, IM before departure and have infant return on or after first birthday to receive 2 additional doses per routine schedule or at least 6 months apart.
* **Unvaccinated persons age 12 months – 18 years:**
  + Give one dose 0.5 mL, IM as soon as travel is considered and second dose at least 6 months later.
* **Unvaccinated persons age 19 and older:**
  + Give one dose 1 mL, IM as soon as travel is considered and second dose at least 6 months later.

## Medical emergency or anaphylaxis

Follow pre-established agency protocol for anaphylaxis.

## Question or concerns

**Insert overseeing medical consultant’s information below and delete this sentence before printing/signing.**

In the event of questions or concerns call (insert name) at (insert phone number).

**This protocol shall remain in effect until rescinded.**

Name of prescriber (please print):

Prescriber signature:

Date: