Hepatitis A is an acute viral infection that affects the liver. It is spread from person to person by contact with tiny amounts of infected stool (poop). Protect yourself - know the facts about hepatitis A.
**Hepatitis A Basics**

**What is hepatitis A?**
Hepatitis A is an acute viral infection that affects the liver.

**How can hepatitis A spread?**
The virus enters the body when hands, food or objects contaminated with stool (poop) are put in the mouth. Even if you can't see it, tiny amounts of the virus can get into your mouth and make you sick. It can be spread by:
- Close contact with a person who is sick with hepatitis A
- Eating food prepared by a person with hepatitis A
- Oral/anal sex play (using fingers, hands, mouth or sex toys for anal play) with a person with hepatitis A

**What are the symptoms of hepatitis A?**
- Jaundice (yellow eyes and skin)
- Abdominal (stomach or side) pain
- Nausea (upset stomach) or vomiting
- Fatigue (feeling tired)

**What is the treatment for hepatitis A?**
There is no specific treatment for hepatitis A. Most people recover within 3 weeks. Some people require supportive care at a hospital.

**Is there a vaccine for hepatitis A?**
Yes, there is a vaccine that can help prevent hepatitis A. It is recommended for:
- All children at one and two years of age
- People with chronic liver disease, including chronic hepatitis B and C
- Men who have sex with men
- People who use drugs
- People experiencing homelessness
- Travelers to countries where hepatitis A is common

**How can I protect myself from hepatitis A?**
- Get vaccinated for hepatitis A if you are risk.
- Wash hands for 20 seconds with soap and water after using the toilet, changing diapers and before preparing or eating food.

For more information, call 614-645-1474 (option 2) or visit columbus.gov/hepatitis.