

ASPR TRACIE Technical Assistance Request

Request Receipt Date (by ASPR TRACIE): 15 November 2018

Response Date: 20 November 2018; updated 19 July 2019

Type of TA Request: Standard

Request:

The requestor asked if ASPR TRACIE had resources on best practices and lessons learned related to hepatitis A outbreaks.

Response:

The ASPR TRACIE Team reviewed existing ASPR TRACIE resources, namely the [Select Infectious Disease Resources](#) webpage. We also conducted an online search for best practices and lessons learned specific to hepatitis A outbreaks.

Section I in this document includes best practices and lessons learned specific to hepatitis A outbreaks. Section II provides additional resources related to hepatitis A outbreaks in the United States.

I. Hepatitis A Outbreaks: Best Practices and Lessons Learned

California Department of Public Health. (2018). [Hepatitis A Outbreak in California](#).

This webpage provides a summary of the hepatitis A outbreak that started in San Diego County in 2016 and spread to other counties in California. It provides information on the individuals that are most at risk for contracting hepatitis A, which include people experiencing homelessness, and other high-risk groups such as people using illicit drugs and men who have sex with men. It also describes the response efforts made by the local health departments and clinical and community partners to stop the spread of the outbreak (e.g., vaccination campaigns targeting the at-risk populations, education outreach, and obtaining and managing vaccines).

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2018). [2017 – Outbreaks of Hepatitis A in Multiple States Among People Who Use Drugs and/or People Who Are Homeless](#).

This webpage provides information on recent hepatitis A outbreaks in the U.S. experienced primarily by people who use injection and non-injection drugs, and/or persons who are homeless, and their close direct contacts. It also includes state-specific data and tips for public health officials on how to manage and respond to these outbreaks.

Chalmers, T. (2009). [Walk-in or Drive-thru: POD Model Comparisons from the Erie County Hepatitis A Experience](#). University at Albany Center for Public Health Preparedness.

This webinar includes lessons learned from Erie County, New York’s hepatitis A outbreak response in 2008, and compares walk-in and drive-thru POD models and experiences.

County of San Diego. (2018). [Hepatitis A Outbreak After Action Report](#).

This after-action report provides information on the response strategy, action plan, and recommendations for improvement as it relates to the 2017 hepatitis A outbreak that occurred in San Diego, CA.

Koenig, K., Shastry, S., and Burns, M. (2017). Hepatitis A Virus: A Novel Identify-Isolate-Inform Tool for Frontline Healthcare Providers.

The authors share how using the “Identify-Isolate-Inform” tool (adapted for Hepatitis A Virus) can help emergency physicians become more familiar with the identification and management of patients presenting to the emergency department.

McGaughey, M. (2017). SLCo Hepatitis A Outbreak: SLCo EMB & MRC Support. (See Attached.)

This PowerPoint presentation from the Salt Lake County Health Department provides statistical and other information with regards to the 2017-2018 hepatitis A outbreak. It also includes information on the health department’s mitigation strategies, incident command structure, and challenges and successes experienced during response efforts.

National Association of County and City Health Officials. (n.d.). [Infectious Diseases & the Opioid Epidemic](#). (Accessed 11/20/2018.)

This webpage provides information on the Nation’s opioid epidemic, which has also substantially increased the risk of transmission of blood-borne viruses including HIV, hepatitis C, and hepatitis B through unsafe injection practices. It provides links to plans, webinars, and other resources from communities that have been impacted by the opioid crisis and the spread of infectious diseases.

National Health Care for the Homeless Council. (2018). [San Diego Hepatitis A Outbreak: An HCH Health Center’s Involvement in Disaster Response](#).

This 60-minute video provides information on the 2017 hepatitis A outbreak in San Diego, CA specifically at Father Joe’s Villages, a large homeless services agency that includes an embedded Health Care for the Homeless Health Center. The speaker explains the education, outreach, and communication efforts implemented by various local government agencies and other community stakeholders to contain the outbreak.

San Diego Health and Human Services Agency. (2018). [Hepatitis A Outbreak in San Diego County is Officially Over](#).

This article describes the 2017 hepatitis A outbreak that started in San Diego in 2016. The local health department's response to the outbreak included a number of new strategies, such as sending "foot-teams" of nurses, homeless outreach workers, and law enforcement to meet with and provide vaccinations to at-risk individuals where they were residing. The county also worked with nearby cities and provided sanitation protocols for cleaning areas frequently used by people experiencing homelessness, and installed handwashing stations in public areas.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2017). [Hidden Casualties: Consequences of Opioid Epidemic on Spread of Infectious Diseases](#).

This six-part webinar series provides information on the U.S. opioid epidemic and the impact it is having on the spread of infectious diseases, such as hepatitis A. Speakers also discuss their experiences and lessons learned.

II. Additional Relevant Resources

Camps-Outcalt, D. (2018). [CDC Provides Advice on Recent Hepatitis A Outbreaks](#). The Journal of Family Practice. 67(1):30-32

This article provides an overview of the hepatitis A outbreaks in the U.S., and includes outbreak-specific vaccine recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2015). [Guidelines for Large-Scale Influenza Vaccination Clinic Planning](#).

This webpage includes guidance for staffing, location, layout, administration, and vaccine tracking related to large-scale influenza vaccination clinics which can be tailored to address outbreaks of other infectious diseases.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2015). [Viral Hepatitis Prevention Program Practices](#).

This webpage provides links to resources specific to viral hepatitis, such as strategic plans; program tools; and patient education resources to include campaign materials, fact sheets, and brochures in different languages.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2017). [Viral Hepatitis](#).

This webpage provides information on federal guidelines and recommendations, statistics, resources for healthcare professionals, outbreak information, and patient education resources pertaining to viral hepatitis.

Dan, C. (2017). [Hepatitis A Outbreaks Appearing Across the Nation](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This report provides an overview of recent hepatitis A outbreaks in the U.S., and includes response efforts and actions taken by local health agencies.

National Association of County and City Health Officials. (2016). [Capturing Patient and Vaccine Information at Mass Vaccination Clinics – A Catalog of Electronic Technologies.](#)

This webpage includes information on tools and technologies used to capture patient data during vaccination clinics (barcode scanners, digital pens, magnetic card swipers, mobile applications, scanning, and web-based technology). Users can click on a link to search for examples in the NACCHO Toolbox.

Scutti, S. (2018). [Hepatitis A Outbreak Cases on Rise Across US; Nashville Reports Outbreak.](#) CNN.

This report provides an overview of recent hepatitis A outbreaks in the U.S., and includes response efforts and actions taken by local health agencies.

The University of New Mexico School of Medicine. (2016). [Project ECHO.](#)

The Extension for Community Health Outcomes (known as Project ECHO) was created to provide healthcare providers in rural and underserved areas with information they need to treat conditions such as hepatitis C, chronic pain, and behavioral health disorders. In the event of a disaster, one or more of ECHO's "hubs" could assist with virtual healthcare delivery.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2017). [Hidden Casualties: Consequences of Opioid Epidemic on Spread of Infectious Diseases.](#)

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