



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **SAGINAW COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH OFFERS HEPATITIS A CLINIC**

The Saginaw County Department of Public Health (SCDPH) announces a public hepatitis A vaccine clinic scheduled for Friday, March 9, 2018 from 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM at the East Side Soup Kitchen, 940 E. Genesee Ave., for persons 19 years of age and older.

It is currently recommended that those that are at highest risk of contracting hepatitis A receive the hepatitis A vaccine. High risk individuals include:

- Persons who use injection and non-injection illegal drugs
- Men who have sex with men
- Persons who are currently homeless or in transient living conditions
- Persons recently incarcerated
- Persons with chronic liver disease

Hepatitis A, a vaccine-preventable disease, is an infection of the liver caused by the hepatitis A virus (HAV). HAV is found in feces of people with hepatitis A and is most commonly spread by eating contaminated food or water, during sex, or just by living with an infected person. Symptoms of HAV infection include:

- Nausea and vomiting
- Stomach pain
- Feeling tired
- Fever
- Loss of appetite
- Yellowing of the skin and eyes
- Dark urine
- Pale-colored feces
- Joint pain

Persons with commercial insurance should bring their ID and insurance card to the clinic.

Uninsured or underinsured persons may receive the vaccine at no cost through Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' Adult Vaccine Program.

Hepatitis A vaccine is also available during regularly scheduled immunization clinics. For more information on HAV or immunization clinic locations, please contact us at 989-758-3840 or visit our website at [www.saginawpublichealth.org](http://www.saginawpublichealth.org).

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