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**Key Messages:**

- A food handler with hepatitis A virus (HAV) worked while infectious at the Rattlesnake Point Golf Club Bistro in Milton.
- Patrons of the Golf Club Bistro who visited during this period may have been exposed.
- The risk of transmission is low.
- The most recent date of exposure to the infectious case was May 2, 2023.
- Patients at risk of exposure should monitor for signs and symptoms.
- Follow the Public Health Ontario Laboratory (PHOL) instructions when testing for acute HAV infection, and for investigations of recent exposures and outbreaks.

**ALERT: Food handler with hepatitis A, infectious while working at Milton golf course**

A food handler with HAV, worked while infectious (April 20 - May 2, 2023) at the Rattlesnake Point Golf Club Bistro, 5407 Regional Rd 25, Milton, Ontario.

The risk of transmission is low. However, individuals who ate or drank at the Golf Club Bistro on the dates below **should monitor for signs and symptoms of HAV for up to 50 days from the date of their exposure and seek medical advice promptly if symptoms develop.** The infectious case worked on the following dates:

- **April 20**
- **April 22-23**
- **April 25-27**
- **April 29-30**
- **May 2**

**HAV Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) Recommendations**

HAV PEP given within 14 days of exposure may prevent disease. The most recent date of exposure to the infectious case was May 2 and therefore PEP is unlikely to be recommended. PEP interventions include the administration of monovalent HAV vaccine or the administration of serum immunoglobulin (IG) or both, depending on the age and underlying health of the contact.

For more about HAV immunization refer to the Canadian Immunization Guide:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/healthy-living/canadian-immunization-guide-part-4-active-vaccines/page-6-hepatitis-a-vaccine.html>

**Clinical features of HAV Infections**

- **Consider** HAV in patients with compatible symptoms including fever, malaise, loss of appetite, nausea/vomiting, dark urine, and abdominal pain followed by jaundice or elevated aminotransferase levels.
- Symptom onset is generally 15 to 50 days after exposure.
- Infection is typically self-limiting, though severe cases can last several months.
- Transmitted from infected individuals through the fecal/oral route (including contamination of food and oral/anal contact during sexual activity).

## Immunity

Persons with a history of lab confirmed HAV infection in the past or documented two doses of HAV vaccine are considered immune.

Report clinical diagnoses of HAV to Peel Public Health by calling 905-799-7700. This will enable prompt follow up with the case and coordination of post-exposure prophylaxis for eligible contacts

### **REMINDER: Hepatitis A serology instructions**

Testing for HAV serology may be indicated for the work-up of patients with suspected acute viral hepatitis to determine immune status (following recovery from natural infection or as a result of immunization), and as part of an epidemiologic investigation (e.g., outbreak investigation).

If HAV infection is suspected, please order IgG and IgM serology by selecting “immune status” AND “acute infection for hepatitis A” on the PHO General Test Requisition Form:

[https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/Documents/Lab/general-test-requisition.PDF?la=en&sc\\_lang=en&hash=C49CC41A314364C6AF7B7A29385D521B](https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/Documents/Lab/general-test-requisition.PDF?la=en&sc_lang=en&hash=C49CC41A314364C6AF7B7A29385D521B).

For further instructions on how to complete the requisition form please see the PHO Laboratory serology instructions:

<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/Laboratory-Services/Kit-Test-Ordering-Instructions/Hepatitis-A-Test-Ordering>