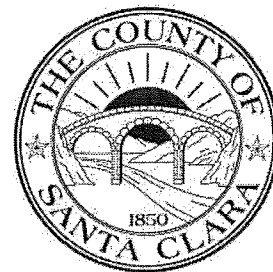


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43.

**County of Santa Clara
Public Health Department**



Communicable Disease Prevention & Control
976 Lenzen Avenue, Suite 1200
San José, CA 95126
408.885.4214 | 408.885.4249 fax

November 28, 2017

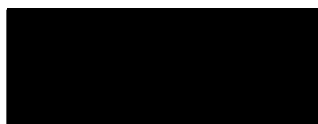
To: The Mayor and Council of the City of San José
From: George Han, MD, MPH, Santa Clara County Public Health Department
RE: The risk of hepatitis A among homeless individuals in San José

Over half a year ago, Santa Cruz and San Diego counties began reporting outbreaks of hepatitis A among homeless individuals residing in their jurisdictions. In recent weeks, the number of new cases of hepatitis A has slowed. In Santa Clara County, there were two cases of outbreak-associated hepatitis A in our county jail in August, but fortunately no additional cases have surfaced since then. In Santa Clara County, there have been no cases of outbreak-associated hepatitis A reported among homeless individuals this year. Therefore, there currently is no increased risk of hepatitis A among homeless individuals in our county.

Homeless shelters and other locations that provide sleeping quarters for homeless individuals can take simple steps to reduce the risk of transmission of any communicable disease. Bathroom facilities should be available where individuals can use the toilet and wash their hands with soap and water. Encouraging all clients, staff, and volunteers to wash their hands frequently with soap and water, especially after using the toilet and before eating or serving food, is always a good idea, especially now that we are entering cold and flu season.

For more information about hepatitis A, please visit our website at <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/phd/diseaseinformation/hep-a-home/pages/hep-a-home.aspx>, where fact sheets may be found in multiple languages (English language version here: <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/phd/DiseaseInformation/hep-a-home/Documents/hep-a-factsheet-eng.pdf>).

Sincerely,



George Han, MD, MPH
Assistant Health Officer and Communicable Disease Controller
Santa Clara County Public Health Department