

DHEC Health Facilities Offering the Second Dose of Hepatitis A Vaccine

The S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) health facilities in Greenville and Spartanburg will be offering appointments for individuals who might have been exposed to hepatitis A at two Hardee's restaurants located in Spartanburg County, received post-exposure vaccination in September 2015, and would like to receive a second dose of vaccine.

The CDC recommends only a single dose of hepatitis A vaccine as preventive treatment for individuals following a known hepatitis A exposure, such as the exposures that affected customers and employees of the two Upstate Hardee's restaurants.

If a hepatitis A vaccine was administered within two weeks of exposure, it protects against infection from the known exposure and also provides long-term protection for about 95% of people who are vaccinated. However, some people should complete the two dose series for full protection, including:

- children ages 12 months and older, including adolescents; and
- people at higher risk for hepatitis A disease, especially those with chronic liver disease and international travelers to countries that have higher levels of hepatitis A disease.

Anyone exposed to hepatitis A in September 2015 is no longer at risk of developing hepatitis A from that exposure at the Hardees restaurants and there is no evidence of any current risk of hepatitis A infection from those restaurants. For more information on who is recommended to get the 2nd dose of hepatitis A vaccine, go to the CDC hepatitis A vaccine page: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/hepa/default.htm>.

If you received the 1st dose of Hepatitis A vaccine after the potential Hardees exposure in September 2015 and would like to receive the 2nd dose of hepatitis A vaccine, you can call the **toll free DHEC appointment line at 800-868-0404** to schedule an appointment for the vaccination.