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MEDIA RELEASE

Information Advisory Warning Update

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St. Clair County Health Department Offering Second Vaccination Clinic October 26 in Algonac

The St. Clair County Health Department is holding a second hepatitis A vaccination clinic on Thursday, October 26, 2017 at 5:00pm (**while supplies last**), at the Algonac Lions Club, located at 1905 Mill Street in Algonac. A limited supply of the vaccine will be on hand. The vaccine will be offered **only** to those who may have been exposed by eating at the Flaming Grill restaurant in Algonac or had carry-out food **between the dates of October 12 - 20, 2017**. It is important to note these dates. The vaccine works best if given within 14 days of last exposure. Past the 14 day exposure time, it is important to monitor yourself for symptoms for at least 50 days and see your health care provider immediately if you have any symptoms. Those who received their first dose of hepatitis A vaccine do not need to attend. Hepatitis A is a vaccine preventable disease.

The Health Department continues to investigate a case of hepatitis A related to an ill food worker at Algonac Flaming Grill restaurant, 1065 St. Clair River Drive, Algonac. The restaurant owner and employees have cooperated with St. Clair County Health Department's recommendations for disease control measures including vaccination and proper cleaning procedures. Concerned individuals and members of the media are urged to contact the St. Clair County Health Department or their health care provider with questions.

The hepatitis A virus is most commonly spread from person-to-person by the fecal-oral route. Most infections result from contact with an infected household member or sex partners. Sometimes, infection results from food or drink that is contaminated with the virus. Hepatitis A symptoms can include abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, dark urine, clay colored stool, fever, chills, yellow skin and eyes (jaundice). Symptoms occur between 15 and 50 days after exposure and can last for several weeks to months. Contact your healthcare provider immediately if you have these symptoms.

Stay healthy. Prevention tips include:

- Get vaccinated against hepatitis A

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- Wash hands after using the restroom and before eating or preparing meals for yourself or others
- Use your own towels, toothbrushes, and eating utensils
- Do not have sex with someone who has the infection
- Do not share food, drinks, drugs, or smokes with other people
- If you think you may have hepatitis A, see your doctor
- If you have hepatitis A, please cooperate with your local public health department to help protect others

There have been 431 cases of hepatitis A diagnosed in Southeast Michigan since August 2016, a sixteen-fold increase compared to the previous year. City of Detroit and counties of Lapeer, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Sanilac, Washtenaw, and Wayne have all been affected. Learn more about the Southeast Michigan outbreak at www.mi.gov/hepatitisaoutbreak.

For more information, please contact (810)987-5300 during regular business hours or visit www.scchealth.co. Follow us on social media @scchdmi. Hepatitis A fact located at <http://www.stclaircounty.org/Offices/health/forms/FactSheets/Hepatitis%20A.pdf>

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