

Public Health Points

York City Bureau of Health

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BABY BOOMER HEPATITIS C TESTING PROGRAM TO START

According to recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), all “baby boomers” should be offered a routine Hepatitis C screening test. Baby boomers are defined as those individuals born from 1945 through 1965. The expansion of those at-risk who should be tested came from the findings by the CDC that nearly 3 in 4 people with Hepatitis C were born during the baby boomer years.

In response to this recommendation, beginning September 2, 2014, the York City Bureau of Health will offer Hepatitis C lab slips to York City and York County residents with health insurance and a primary care physician. Under the new federal Affordable Care Act, a one-time, screening test for Hepatitis C infection should be a preventive service offered at no charge to persons at risk for Hepatitis C infection, including adults born between 1945 and 1965.

Hepatitis C is a viral infection of the liver caused by the Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) that sometimes results in acute infection, but most often causes a silent, chronic infection that can lead to cirrhosis, liver failure, liver cancer, and death. Chronic HCV infection develops in a majority of HCV-infected persons, most of whom do not know they are infected since they have no symptoms. HCV is spread primarily by contact with the blood of an infected person. There is no vaccine for Hepatitis C.

Getting tested for Hepatitis C can help people learn if they are infected and get them into lifesaving care and treatment. The sooner the better. New anti-viral medications are now available that can eliminate the virus from the body and prevent liver damage, cirrhosis and even liver cancer.



An individual found to have a positive antibody test for Hepatitis C will be referred to their primary medical care provider for further evaluation, testing and referral to specialists as indicated.

Persons who were born between 1945 and 1965 and who have health insurance and a primary care physician can obtain a lab slip for Hepatitis C testing by calling the Health Bureau at 717-849-2299 to make an appointment or can visit the Health Bureau at 435 West Philadelphia Street in the City of York.

For more information about Hepatitis C, the new Baby Boomer Hepatitis C Testing recommendation, check the CDC website at www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/HCV.

Reportable Conditions 2014 York, PA

Reported Cases	July 2014	Cum.
Animal Bites	13	77
Campylobacter Enteritis	2	5
Chlamydia	74	339
Gonorrhea	14	84
Hepatitis B	0	4
Hepatitis C	9	51
HIV Infection	0	7
Influenza Type A	0	46
Influenza Type B	0	14
Influenza, Not Specified	0	1
Invasive Group A Beta-Strep Disease	0	2
Lyme Disease	3	6
Meningitis – Fungal	0	1
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Infection	1	31
Salmonellosis	1	1
Varicella	1	2
Total Case Reports	118	671

News Flash...

The Health Bureau is moving! On September 25th, the 227 W. Market St. office and staff will be relocating to York City Hall at 101. S. George St. The Albert S. Weyer Health Center at 435 W. Philadelphia will NOT be moving.

PADOH Asks Public to Report Environmental Health Concerns

The Pennsylvania Department of Health (PADOH) wants Pennsylvania's citizens to become informed about how to report environmental health concerns. The goal is to let the public know that there is a place to report their complaints or their concerns, if needed. Similarly, county and municipal public health departments in the State that become aware of individuals who are concerned they may have adverse health effects, potentially attributable to Marcellus Shale development or other environmental health factors, to report these issues to the Department's Bureau of Epidemiology:

Pennsylvania Department of Health
Division of Environmental Health Epidemiology
Room 933, Health and Welfare Building
625 Forster St., Harrisburg, PA 17120
Phone: 717-547-3310
Fax: 717-346-3286
Toll free hotline: 1-877 PA Health (724-3258)
RA-DHENVHEALTH@pa.gov

City Schools Receive Tools for Healthy Living

Last year, the City of York received a \$100,000 award from the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the National Beverage Association to address childhood obesity. Our city, through Eat Play Breathe York and its many community partners, is focusing on childhood wellness in our schools to promote healthy eating, physical activity and wellness of both students and staff.

City elementary schools received chillers to store fresh fruits and vegetables to provide students healthy snacks 3 times each week through the federal Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Snack Program. They were also provided with the "Take 10" curriculum so that teachers can incorporate physical activity into lesson plans. Day care centers received the CATCH curriculum to incorporate healthy food and activities in their daily routines.

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