



MINISTRY OF
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HEPATITIS A

Cause:

Hepatitis A virus (HAV)

Transmission:

Eating and drinking contaminated food or water and eating uncooked or raw food.

Signs:

Yellow discolouration of the skin and eyes • Dark urine • Extreme body weakness • Nausea • Vomiting • Abdominal pain.

Vaccination: Not yet available in the routine immunization schedule in Uganda

Treatment:

- Self limiting hence no need for medication
- Enough rehydration

Prevention:

Wash hands Frequently with clean water and soap (Proper hygiene) • Cook food well before eating • Wash fruits thoroughly before eating.

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HEPATITIS B

Cause:

Hepatitis B virus (HBV)

Transmission:

- Contact with the blood or body fluids of an infected person, sharing sharp objects like needles, razor blades, or toothbrush and unscreened blood transfusion.
- Infected mother can pass the virus to her baby during childbirth.

Signs:

In most cases there are no signs however one would present with;

Yellow discolouration of the eyes • Dark urine • Extreme body weakness • Nausea • Vomiting • Abdominal pain.

Vaccination:

Available for children in the routine expanded immunization programme at 6, 10 & 14 weeks. Immunization for adults and high risk groups like health workers, prisoners and people who require regular blood transfusion at 0, 1 & 6 months.

Treatment:

- Life - long treatment begins with regular monitoring tests for signs of liver disease.
- See your medical doctor to assess and decide on what treatment should be given.
- Keep your appointments for regular monitoring.

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HEPATITIS C

Cause:

Hepatitis C virus (HCV)

Transmission:

- Through infected blood, sharing needles or other items used to inject drugs Contact with the blood or body fluids of an infected person e.g sharing sharp objects like needles, razors, or toothbrush and un screened blood transfusion.
- Infected mother can pass the virus to her baby during childbirth.

Signs:

Yellowing discolouration of eyes • Dark urine • Extreme body weakness • Nausea, vomiting • Abdominal pain.

Vaccination:

Not available.

Treatment:

If found to have signs of infection see your medical doctor to assess and decide on how treatment is given.

Prevention:

Vaccination not available

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HEPATITIS D

Cause:

Hepatitis D virus (HDV)

Transmission:

Transmission: Occurs to those who are already infected with HBV. Transmission is the same as that of HBV.

Signs:

Yellow discolouration of the eyes • Dark urine, extreme body weakness • Nausea • Vomiting • Abdominal pain.

Treatment:

• See your medical doctor to assess and decide on what treatment should be given.

Prevention:

Once vaccinated for hepatitis B one cannot get hepatitis D.

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HEPATITIS E

Cause:

Hepatitis E virus (HEV)

Transmission:

Eating and drinking contaminated food or water, uncooked or raw vegetables and fish.

Signs:

Yellow discolouration of the eyes • Dark urine • Extreme body weakness • Nausea • Vomiting • Abdominal pain.

Vaccination: Not available.

Treatment:

Supportive management.

Prevention:

Vaccine available but not yet in Uganda • Wash hands with clean water and soap • Proper disposal of faecal matter • Cook food well before eating • Wash fruits thoroughly before eating.

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