



Aitkin County Health & Human Services

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To: Aitkin County Board of Commissioners
From: Aitkin County H&HS Advisory Committee
RE: Proposed Calendar Year 2020 ACH&HS Budget

On August 7, 2019, the Aitkin County H&HS Advisory Committee reviewed the proposed Calendar Year 2020 Health & Human Services Budget. By a vote of 13 in favor and 0 opposed the Aitkin County H&HS Advisory Committee supports the proposed budget. We respectfully request that the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners accept and approve the H&HS proposed Calendar Year 2020 Budget.

Sincerely,

Carole Holten
ACH&HS Advisory Committee Chairperson

Fact Sheet: Severe Lung Injuries Associated with Vaping

AUGUST 2019

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) is working with local public health and health care providers to investigate reports of severe lung illness potentially related to vaping and e-cigarette use among teens and adults. With similar reports coming from other states in recent weeks, MDH is partnering with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to determine a cause and what steps may be taken to prevent additional illness. To date approximately 200 cases have been reported from multiple states. Many of the patients report having vaped THC (a component of cannabis) purchased on the black market.

What have we found so far?

In Minnesota, symptoms have resulted in hospitalizations lasting from days to weeks, with some patients admitted to intensive care units. Symptoms included shortness of breath, fever, cough, vomiting and diarrhea. Some patients also reported headache, dizziness, and chest pain.

What are we doing about it?

In addition to working with CDC and other states, MDH is partnering with health care providers to investigate the reports. Use of illegal marijuana-based products were reported by those interviewed. We are asking providers to report similar cases.

What can Minnesotans do to protect themselves and their loved ones?

People with lung symptoms after vaping should seek clinical care and avoid e-cigarettes or other vaping products, as continued use may lead to worsening symptoms. People should avoid vaping non-medical cannabis-based products since ingredients in these products are unknown.

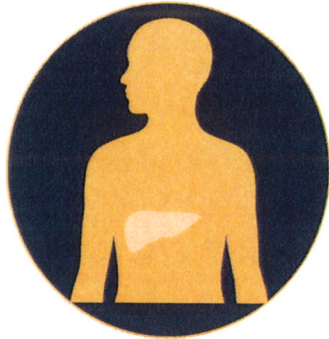
What else do we know about this?

E-cigarettes, vapes, e-pipes and other vaping products are battery-powered devices that allow users to inhale aerosolized liquid. E-cigarettes typically contain nicotine, which is highly addictive and harmful to the adolescent brain. In addition, e-cigarette aerosol contains harmful substances, such as ultrafine particles, oil, and heavy metals like nickel, tin and lead.

The U.S. Surgeon General has called teen e-cigarette use an epidemic. The 2017 Minnesota Youth Tobacco Survey found that nearly 20% of high-school students use e-cigarettes and 40% have tried them. In addition, 34.7% of high school students and 15.8% of middle school students who use e-cigarettes have used an e-cigarette for recreational marijuana, THC or hash oil, or THC wax at least once.

To get updates on our investigation or to learn more, please visit the Minnesota Department of Health website at www.health.state.mn.us.

What to know about hepatitis A



What is hepatitis A?

- Hepatitis A is a serious liver disease caused by the hepatitis A virus.
- It can make you very sick and lead to hospitalization and sometimes death.

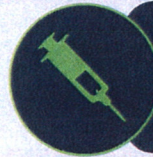
Who is at high risk?

- People who use injection and non-injection drugs
- People experiencing homelessness or with unstable housing
- People who are or were recently incarcerated
- Men who have sex with men
- People with direct contact with someone who has hepatitis A
- Travelers

How is hepatitis A spread?



Eating or drinking



Sharing syringes and drug use equipment



Unwashed hands

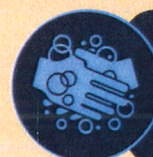


Sex with people who have hepatitis A

How can hepatitis A be prevented?



Get vaccinated.* It's the best way to prevent hepatitis A.



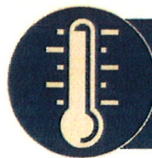
Wash hands with soap and water.

* If you don't have insurance, you can get vaccine for free or low cost: www.health.state.mn.us/uuavsearch.

What are the symptoms?



Yellowing of skin or eyes (jaundice)



Fever



Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea

Other symptoms include: stomach pain, dark pee, pale poop, tiredness, and lack of appetite.

If you have these symptoms, please contact your health care provider.