

MEDIA RELEASE

ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hepatitis A case identified

Erie, PA — The Erie County Department of Health has confirmed a case of hepatitis A in a person who works at Cracker Barrel, 7810 Interstate Dr., Erie. The restaurant is following cleaning and employee health guidelines provided by their corporate management and by the Erie County Department of Health.

Hepatitis A is a contagious liver disease. It spreads through person-to-person contact or by eating contaminated food or drinks. Symptoms include fatigue (tiredness), loss of appetite, nausea, stomach pain, diarrhea, dark urine, joint pain or jaundice (yellowing of the skin or eyes), which can last from a few weeks to several months.

While the risk of being affected is low, customers who ate or drank at the restaurant during **January 30-February 21, 2024**, including persons who ordered or delivered take out, should watch for any symptoms of hepatitis A. It can take two to 7 weeks after exposure before symptoms start to appear. If symptoms appear, seek medical attention.

Customers, dine-in and take out, on **February 10-21, 2024** are urged to get the vaccine as soon as possible after potentially being exposed. Consult your doctor, primary care provider or a pharmacy to ask about the vaccine.

Restaurant staff should contact their management for guidance.

Customers and staff and their families should all also wash hands frequently, especially after using the bathroom, changing diapers and before preparing and eating food.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the best way to prevent hepatitis A is to get vaccinated.

- Consult your doctor or primary care provider.
- Some pharmacies may have the vaccine. Availability may be limited. Refer to this [map](#).
- If you have no insurance or are underinsured, call 814-451-6707 for assistance.
- The Erie County Department of Health is working to obtain additional vaccines.

The county health department is working with the Pennsylvania Department of Health on this matter. For questions about hepatitis A,

- Erie County, call 814-451-6707
- Pennsylvanians outside of Erie County, call 877-724-3258

For more information about hepatitis A:

- [Pennsylvania Department of Health](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

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