



Monday, April 27, 2009

For Immediate Release

## **Additional Hepatitis A clinic available tonight in York Region**

**NEWMARKET** – The Regional Municipality of York advises residents that a second Hepatitis A immunization clinic is available tonight in York Region. Both clinics have been scheduled following yesterday's announcement of a potential Hepatitis A exposure at a Tim Hortons location at 16545 Yonge Street (Yonge Street and Savage Road) in the Town of Newmarket.

People eligible for the vaccine are those customers **who consumed food from this location anytime between Monday, April 13 and Wednesday, April 22, 2009.**

### **Immunization Clinic Locations and Hours:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Time</b>
Monday, April 27 <sup>th</sup>	Newmarket Health Centre – Auditorium 194 Eagle Street Town of Newmarket	4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Monday, April 27 <sup>th</sup>	Magna Centre 800 Mulock Drive Town of Newmarket	4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Hepatitis A is a liver disease caused by the Hepatitis A virus. Hepatitis vaccine is very effective in reducing the risk of disease when administered within 14 days of the last day of exposure. Hepatitis A is a fairly common, yet rarely fatal disease. Most people recover without complications after several weeks.

The symptoms of Hepatitis A may include fever, a feeling of being unwell, loss of appetite, diarrhea, nausea and abdominal discomfort. Urine may become darker in colour and jaundice (a yellowing of the skin and whites of the eyes) may appear. Symptoms may appear two to seven weeks after exposure, but usually occur about four weeks after exposure. People who have pre-existing liver problems, especially those who have Hepatitis C, can become extremely ill if they contract Hepatitis A. Anyone who experiences these symptoms should see their doctor.

People with Hepatitis A pass the virus in their stool (feces). The most common way the virus spreads to others is through improper hand hygiene. It is common for the Hepatitis A virus to spread to the household and close contacts of acute cases.

The best way to reduce the risk of transmission to others is through proper hand hygiene. This is especially important after using the washroom and before handling food. Anyone who may have been exposed is strongly encouraged to follow this practice to reduce the risk of spreading illness to others.

**For more information on Hepatitis A, proper hand washing procedures and to discuss vaccine eligibility, please contact York Region *Health Connection* at 1-800-361-5653. Health Connection hours have been temporarily extended until 8 p.m. seven days a week.**

For more information on The Regional Municipality of York, please visit [www.york.ca](http://www.york.ca)

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