April 18, 2018

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Did you know Hepatitis A is a highly contagious liver disease caused by the Hepatitis A Virus (HAV)? It can be considered either a mild illness lasting a few weeks or a more severe illness lasting several months. HAV can lead to hospitalization if symptoms go untreated for a prolonged period of time. Hepatitis A is usually spread unknowingly when a person ingests the virus from food, drink, or other objects contaminated by an infected person’s fecal (poop) matter. Preventative measures to avoid the spreading of disease include washing your hands before eating and after using the restroom. Avoid eating or drinking after someone experiencing HAV symptoms. Vaccine is also available for those who qualify; qualifications for HAV vaccine are people who use drugs and/or their close personal contacts, personal contacts of Hepatitis A cases, and youth 12 months-18 years of age.