

NEWS RELEASE

Sherlita Amler, MD, Commissioner, Dept of Health
Ned McCormack, Communications Director
Contact: Jerry McKinstry, 914-995-2925

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 30, 2017



HEALTH DEPARTMENT VACCINATES NEARLY 3,000 FOR HEPATITIS A Astorino Announces Extended Preventive Treatment Available through November 6 County Also Working with State on Two Cases of Legionnaires' disease

The Westchester County Department of Health has provided preventive treatment to more than 2,900 people for Hepatitis A since Thursday in connection with five cases of the illness traced to the bartaco restaurant in Port Chester. Over 1,200 people were vaccinated on Saturday, and another 60 people were registered to be vaccinated today.

At a briefing today, County Executive Robert P. Astorino announced that vaccinations will be available for free at the Department of Health Clinic in White Plains, 134 Court Street, on weekdays through Nov. 6. Vaccinations are available by appointment.

“It was critical from a public health standpoint that we get out in front of this outbreak, and we have,” said Astorino. “We are monitoring the situation closely and will continue to do so to protect the public.”

The Health Department also vaccinated about 900 people on Thursday and 800 on Friday. The preventive treatment is for people who may have been exposed to the disease when they ate or drank at bartaco, a restaurant in Port Chester from Oct. 12 through Oct. 23. Today is the last day to vaccinate people who ate or drank at Bartaco on Oct. 16, because preventive treatment is only effective if given within 14 days of exposure.

The County Executive also addressed the two confirmed cases of Legionnaires’ disease at the Sky View Rehabilitation Center in Croton-on-Hudson, and said the county is working with the New York State Department of Health, which is in charge of the investigation, in monitoring the situation. The nursing home has hired a consultant that is experienced in the remediation and control of legionella, bacteria that is common in water and does not cause illness for most people.

The Health Department will offer Hepatitis A vaccinations at its clinic, **134 Court Street, White Plains** as follows:

- Monday, October 30 from 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. (for those who dined October 16 - 23)
- Tuesday, October 31 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (for those who dined October 17 - 23)
- Wednesday, November 1 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. (for those who dined October 18 - 23)
- Thursday, November 2 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. (for those who dined October 19 - 23)
- Friday, November 3 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (for those who dined October 20 - 23)
- Monday, November 6 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (for those who dined on October 23)

Date of Exposure (Date dined at bartaco)	Last possible date to receive preventive treatment
October 16	October 30
October 17	October 31
October 18	November 1
October 19	November 2
October 20	November 3
October 21	November 4
October 22	November 5
October 23	November 6

To speed the process, register in advance and have your registration number handy when it is your turn. To register, go to www.health.ny.gov/go2clinic/60.

If you do not have internet access, call 211 or 1-800-899-1479 to register, from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Bartaco customers also can call the company at 1-844-617-8242 to be directed to additional clinics in Connecticut.

Anyone with a prior history of Hepatitis A vaccination or Hepatitis A infection does not need to be treated and should not register.

The Health Department learned on October 25 that an employee with Hepatitis A, a viral illness that affects the liver, worked at the restaurant while infectious. To date, four patrons also have been diagnosed with Hepatitis A. The Health Department immediately began investigating the source of the infection upon learning of the cases.

For more health information, like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/wchealthdept, follow us on Twitter @wchealthdept or visit us at www.westchestergov.com/health.

###