



NEWS RELEASE

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For more information, please contact:

Cassie Winter, Rome Memorial Hospital 315.337.5309 cwinter@romehospital.org or

Megan Graziano, Oneida County Health Department 315.798.5229 mgraziano@ocgov.net

Rome Memorial Hospital hosts free walk-in Hepatitis A vaccination clinic at Chestnut Commons February 28-March 1

In collaboration with the New York State Department of Health and the Oneida County Health Department, Rome Memorial Hospital will conduct walk-in vaccination clinics for individuals who may have been exposed to the Hepatitis A virus to supplement the clinics scheduled by the county.

Individuals who ate at Cianfrocco's Subs & Wings in Rome between Monday, Feb. 3 and Saturday, Feb. 22 were potentially exposed to Hepatitis A by an employee who tested positive for the virus.

Those who were exposed must receive the vaccination for preventive treatment within 14 days of exposure to be effective. Anyone who doesn't receive the post exposure vaccine within the 14-day window should monitor themselves for symptoms.

The free walk-in clinics will be held at Chestnut Commons, 107 E. Chestnut St., Rome, in Suite 103, while the vaccine supply is available.

- Friday, Feb. 28, 3 to 7 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 29, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Sunday, Mar. 1, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The vaccine is also available through the Oneida County Health Department by calling 315.798.5747.

"Because of the critical time window for individuals to receive preventative treatment, we are offering the walk-in clinics to increase access to the Hepatitis A vaccine to prevent a widespread community outbreak," said Rome Memorial Hospital Director of Infection Prevention Emma Ingalls, RN.

The New York State Department of Health Bureau of Immunization provided the publicly purchased vaccine, which will be administered by hospital staff, as part of its public health emergency response and preparedness activities.

ROME

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

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“Protecting the community’s health is a shared responsibility,” said OCHD Director of Health Phyllis D. Ellis, BSN, MS, FACHE. “By partnering with Rome Memorial Hospital, we are able to vaccinate more people. All those who are eligible should get vaccinated for Hepatitis A.”

Hepatitis A is a contagious liver infection caused by the hepatitis A virus. It is spread by consuming food or drinks or by using utensils that have been handled by an infected person. It can also be spread from close, personal contact with an infected person. Casual contact, such as sitting together, does not spread the virus.

According to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, symptoms include yellow skin or eyes, not wanting to eat, upset stomach, stomach pain, throwing up, fever, dark urine or light-colored stools, joint pain, diarrhea, feeling tired.

People who get hepatitis A may feel sick for a few weeks to several months but usually recover completely and do not have lasting liver damage. Symptoms commonly appear within 28 days of exposure, with a range of 15 to 50 days.

If you have any of these symptoms, please contact your health care provider or the OCHD.

About Rome Memorial Hospital

Rome Memorial Hospital, Inc., (RMH) Rome Memorial Hospital is a non-profit health care system based in Rome, N.Y., providing services to patients throughout Central New York. From primary care to long-term care, Rome Memorial Hospital delivers quality, compassionate medical care for every stage of life. With its specialized Senior Behavioral Health Unit and Residential Health Care Facility, the hospital has become recognized as a valuable resource for senior services. Ranked among the top 20 percent of skilled nursing facilities for three consecutive years, the hospital has earned special designation as a NICHE (Nurses Improving Care for Healthsystem Elders) facility for providing quality care for older adult patients. Rome Memorial Hospital is an affiliate of St. Joseph's Health.

Public Relations

1500 North James Street ♦ Rome, NY 13440 ♦ 315.337.5309