

# Hepatitis A outbreak in a refugee shelter in Kiel, northern Germany





## Report of serologically confirmed Hepatitis A infections

2023-02-23 / 2023-02-24 two reports of serologically confirmed hepatitis A infections on two consecutive days:

- 1. a middle-aged male refugee who was living with his family (family A with eight children) in a refugee shelter
- 2. a female person in her late fifties, volunteer helper at a daycare center/ afternoon care

Result of investigation: there was a connection between the daycare center and the refugee shelter.

Early hypothesis that one of the children was a possible excreter/ source of infection



### Infected persons and excretors in total

2023-02-23 / 2023-02-24:

two adults with (family A and volunteer helper) clinically apparent serologically confirmed HAV infection, hospital treatment required

2023-03-31:

three children (family A) positive for HAV RNA in stool, asymptomatic excretors, \*2008 (9x10³ copies/ml), \*2020 (5.5x10³ copies/ml), \*2021 (4.7x10³ copies/ml)

2023-04-6 / 2023-04-11:

two adolescents (family A and family B) with clinically apparent infection, upper abdominal pain and jaundice, one of them serologically confirmed, outpatients



# what happened before





## **Contact tracing**

Contact persons, risk assessment:

contact with possible risk of infection

The contact persons were subject to all our instructions esified as A total of 100 people from the shelter and afternoon caid close contact persons



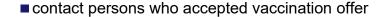
24 Pupils in the class, risk assessment:

Risk of infection possible, even if low





# **Vaccination campaigns**



■ contact persons who did not accept vaccination offer



22.02.2023 family A: case diagnosed 02.03.2023 vaccination offer identified contacts (family A) 07.03.2023 vaccination offer school contacts (family A)

07.03.2023 vaccination offer staff (family A)

11.04.2023 family B: case diagnosed 13.04.2023 vaccination offer family and contacts of family B



### **Vaccination**

### 20 people staff out of 48 got vaccinated

significant vaccination gap

Recommendations by the Standing Committee on Vaccination (STIKO) at the Robert Koch Institute – 2023

### Hepatitis A (HA)

- People with increased risk of sexual exposure (anogenital-oral transmission)
- People who frequently receive blood components, e.g.,
- O Vaccinations due to an increased occupational risk, for example after risk assessment according to the Occupational Health and Safety Act

- People who are at increased risk of occupational exposure, including trainees, interns, students and volunteers with comparable exposure risk, for example:
  - Healthcare workers (including medical and rescue services, kitchen, laboratory, technical
  - and cleaning services, psychiatric and welfare institutions)
  - People in contact with sewage e.g. sewer system and wastewater workers
  - Employment (including kitchen and cleaning) in children's day care centres, children's homes, sheltered employment facilities, refugee shelters, and the like



### **Hygiene measures**

### contact persons:

Ban on access for kindergartens and schools (legal regulation in the Infection Protection Act)

based on RKI recommendation

duration of ban on access depending on vaccination status (two weeks vs. 30 days)

### Issue:

In the meantime, HAV RNA has been detected in stool samples of the family's children (family A)

Hepatitis A

Empfehlungen für die Wiederzulassung

zu Gemeinschaftseinrichtungen gemäß

§ 34 Infektionsschutzgesetz

### ROBERT KOCH INSTITU



### lich 25-30 Tage

l bis zu 1 Woche nach Auftreten des Ikterus oder der shung ist die Ansteckungsfähigkeit am höchsten. Die sind wahrscheinlich eine Woche nach cht mehr ansteckend. Infizierte Kleinkinder und Virus länger (bis zu 6 Monate) ausscheiden

mmunität ist anzunehmen, wenn

e Grundimmunisierung gegen Hepatitis A en STIKO-Empfehlungen belegt werden kann npfpass) oder

positiver Laborbefund eine Immunität gegen

Hepatitis A belegt oder

· eine durchgemachte Hepatitis-A-Erkrankung ärztlich attestiert

### Wiederzulassung in Gemeinschaftseinrichtungen () 33 ItSG)

Erkrankte/ Krankbeit \$ 34 Abs. 1

Wiederzulassung 2 Wochen nach Auftreten der ersten Symptome bzw. eine Woche nach Auftreten des Ikterus mög Bei Kindern und Kleinkindern sollte bei Wiederzulassung die entsprechende Hygienekompetenz berücksichtigt werden, da das Viru auch länger ausgeschieden werden kann.

Kontaktpersonen in Wohngemeinschaft \$34 Abs. 3 IfSG

Wiederzulassung möglich, wenn die Personen

- über eine ausreichende, dokumentierte Immunität (s.o.) zur Zeit der Ansteckungsfähigkeit verfügen oder
- eine postexpositionelle Schutzimpfung erhalten haben und der Einrichtung für wenigstens 2 Wochen nach der Impfung ferngeblieben sind oder
- im Falle einer fehlenden Immunität 30 Tagenach letztem takt in der Wohngemeinschaft der

Can public health measures be based on HAV-RNA detection?

Abs. 7 IfSG).

rmeiden von fäkal-oralen ländehygiene tuhlgang und vor der Einmal-

esinfektionsmittel mit

schaftseinrichtung hat das zuständige ndheitsamt unverzüglich zu benachrichtigen,

- wenn in ihrer Einrichtung betreute oder betreuende Personen an Hepatitis A erkrankt oder dessen verdächtig sind oder
- · wenn in den Wohngemeinschaften der in ihrer Einrichtung betreuten oder betreuenden Personen nach ärztlichem Urteil eine Erkrankung an oder ein Verdacht auf Hepatitis A aufgetreten ist.

Eine Benachrichtigungspflicht besteht nicht, wenn der Leitung ein Nachweis darüber vorliegt, dass die Meldung des Sachverhalts gemäß 6 IfSG bereits erfolgt ist.



# **Hygiene measures**

official order:

Separate sanitary unit for the affected family

Switching the disinfection measures in the sanitary facilities to a virucidal disinfectant from the Robert Koch Institute's list of disinfectants

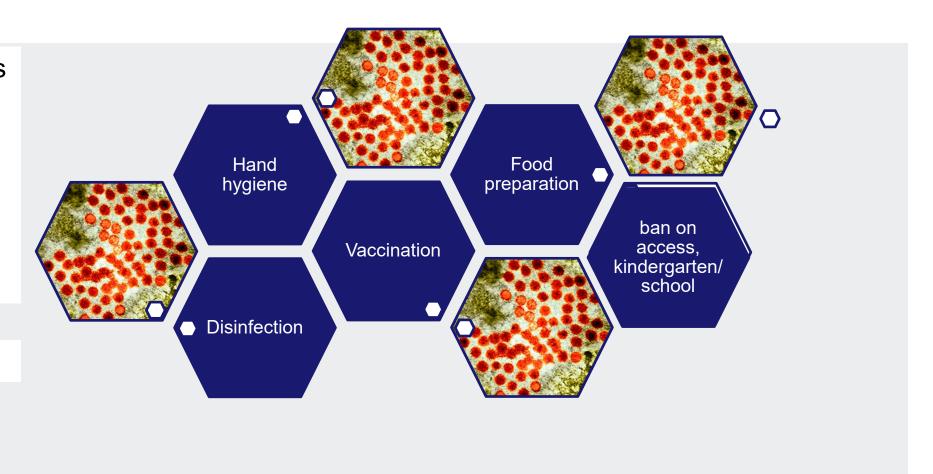




# **Hygiene and vaccinations**

Hygiene and vaccinations are complementary measures and cannot replace each other.

Do both for prevention







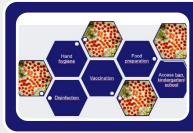
No information without trust

### **Lessons learnt**



Do post-exposure vaccination as early as possible

Take home



Do not base public health measures on HAV RNA detection **alone**,

Consider vaccination status and risk of transmission, act proportionately

except wwo requency receive about components, et. injecting day users, harmoffulae, or people with liver disease/general conditions affecting the liver.

Predeters for polyribative institutions or comparable welfare facilities for people with behavioural disorders or creeful damage

O eeople who are at increased risk of occupational exposure, including trainers, interns, students and volunters with comparable exposure risk, for example:

Predeters workers (Including medical and rescue services, kitchen, laborator, technical

and cleaning sevices, psychiatric and welfare institutions)

Predeter in contact with sewage e.g. sever system and wastewater workers.

Get the staff vaccinated Prevention gap

Need for action

Take home



## **Acknowledgements**

- 1. Andi Krumbholz/ Labor Dr. Krause und Kollegen MVZ GmbH, Kiel, Germany
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- 3. Julia Enkelmann/ Robert Koch Institute, Berlin, Germany
- 4. All my colleagues in the infection control department, Kiel



# Thank you for listening!

### Information on image rights

Slide 3: google.com/ maps

Slide 6 and 9: Public Health Department of the State Capital Kiel

Slide 11: Hepatitis A, ECDC, https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/hepatitis-a