Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care
Public Health
300 Carlton Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada R3B 3M9

May 4, 2026

RE: Expansion of Hepatitis A Vaccine Eligibility to Bloodvein River First Nation

Dear Health Care Provider,

In follow-up to the April 17, 2026, correspondence regarding the expansion of hepatitis A vaccine outbreak eligibility, Manitoba Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care (MHSLTC) continues to update eligibility as additional communities are affected.

A recent increase in hepatitis A cases has been reported among residents of Bloodvein River First Nation in the Interlake-Eastern health region. As a result, hepatitis A outbreak vaccine eligibility has been expanded and now includes the following populations aged six months and older:

- All community members in:
  - **i. Bloodvein River First Nation (New);**
  - ii. The Island Lake area (Garden Hill, St. Theresa Point, Wasagamack and Red Sucker Lake First Nations) - effective May 2025;
  - iii. Peguis First Nation - effective February 2026;
  - iv. War Lake First Nation (also known as Ilford) – effective April 2026;
- Anyone travelling to or working in these communities;
- Those who have household visitors from these communities.

Health care providers are also reminded to continue immunizing individuals eligible under Manitoba's existing publicly funded high-risk hepatitis A immunization program, including people experiencing unstable housing who have been impacted by the outbreak in Winnipeg.

Please note for the outbreak response, one dose is currently recommended. The first dose is highly effective and provides protection for at least a decade.

Additional outbreak information and previous communications are available on:
https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/diseases/hepatitisa.html.

If you have any questions, please email vaccines@gov.mb.ca. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Sincerely,

"Original Signed by"

Richard Baydack, PhD
Executive Director
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"Original Signed by"

Carol Kurbis, MD, FRCPC
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