

Hepatitis A hospitalizations down from 2002 to 2011

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(HealthDay)—From 2002 to 2011 there was a decrease in the rate of hospitalizations for hepatitis A, according to a study published in the February issue of *Hepatology*.

Melissa G. Collier, M.D., from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, and colleagues describe changes in primary hepatitis A [hospitalization rates](#) in the United States from 2002 to 2011. The effect of secondary diagnoses on hospitalization length of stay was also examined.

The researchers found that during 2002 to 2011 there was a decrease in the rates of hospitalization for hepatitis A as a principal diagnosis, from 0.72/100,000 to 0.29/100,000 (P liver disease, hypertension, [ischemic](#)

[heart disease](#), disorders of lipid metabolism, and [chronic kidney disease](#). Over time, there were no changes in length of stay or in-hospital death from hepatitis A, but longer hospitalizations were seen for those with liver disease.

"Hospitalization rates for hepatitis A illness have declined significantly from 2002 to 2011, but the characteristics of the hospitalized population also changed," the authors write. "Hepatitis A disease and resulting hospitalizations could be prevented through adult vaccination."

More information: [Abstract](#)
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