

I am planning a winter trip to a tropical resort. Do I really need hepatitis A vaccination?

June 12, 2018 By Lucinda K. Porter RN

It depends on where you are going. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends hepatitis A virus (HAV) vaccination for many travelers who visit most tropical countries outside of the United States. Check out the travel recommendations on the CDC's [list of destinations](#).

Even if you travel in the United States you may want to be vaccinated for HAV. Recently, there have been hep A outbreaks in many parts of the country. Once vaccinated, you are protected against HAV for at least 20 years, perhaps much longer.

The hep A vaccine is given in two doses. Even if you don't have time to get the second dose done before you leave, a single dose will likely protect you while you travel. [Click here](#) for more information about hep A vaccination.
