|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Service or teamFirst address lineSecond address lineTown or city postcode |  | Phone:Email:[www.gov.uk/ukhsa](http://www.gov.uk/ukhsa) |

Date: 00 month 20XX

Dear [name of person being swabbed – case, close contact, parent or guardian]

RE: Hepatitis A diagnosis or close contact of someone diagnosed with hepatitis A

HPZ / CIMS reference number:

Your local health protection team have asked us to test you for hepatitis A. The test uses a swab to take fluid from your mouth by rubbing a swab along your gums. The test is free. It is easy and painless to do, even in young children. The test kit and instructions are with this letter.

Why we have sent this test to you

We do this test for some people with hepatitis A and the people in contact with them, to help decide how to stop any further spread of hepatitis A. It will test whether you have had hepatitis A recently. Not everyone becomes unwell when they have hepatitis A infection, so you may not know whether you have had it.

You do not have to take the test, but it will help us to arrange the best protection to stop any further spread of hepatitis A.

Where the test can be done

The test can be done at home, by the person themself. For a child, a parent or guardian can do it. If that is not possible then a doctor or nurse can do it – contact the health protection team if this is needed.

When to do the test

Do the test now. If you have a hepatitis A vaccination booked, do the test before the vaccination or on the same day.

If you have already had a hepatitis A vaccination, please write this and the date you had it on the form, if you can.

What you need to do now

Follow the picture instructions in ‘How to take an oral fluid swab for hepatitis A’:

1. Take the test. The video here shows you how to take the oral fluid test: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=zR0dankzUJ4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zR0dankzUJ4)



1. Fill in part 2 (the green section) of the HAV oral fluid request form.
2. When you have taken the test, follow the instructions to pack it up and put it in a Royal Mail postbox.

What will happen next

We will test this in the laboratory. You will get the results from your health protection team in a few weeks.

More information about hepatitis A

There is information about hepatitis A online: [www.nhs.uk/conditions/hepatitis-a/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/hepatitis-a/)



What you can do to stop spread of hepatitis A

Wash your hands carefully before eating food and after using the toilet. Have a hepatitis A vaccine if it is recommended for you.

What to do if you have questions

Call the health protection team on xxxxxxxxxxxx.

When you call, give them the HPZ/CIMS number at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely,

Name of staff member

Name of health protection team

HPT phone number