Case Information:

77 patients diagnosed with acute hepatitis B
5.8 Cases per 100,000 people
729% Increase since 2015

Maine has the 9th highest rate of acute hepatitis B in the US

Risk Factors:

- 53.2% Were people who injected drugs
- 32.5% Were incarcerated prior to infection
- 15.6% Were born between 1945-1965 (Baby Boomers)
- 14.3% Were people with multiple sex partners
- 6.5% Received an unlicensed tattoo prior to infection

Clinical Characteristics:

- 55% of patients were hospitalized
- 97% of patients had symptoms
- 95% of patients had elevated liver enzyme lab results
- 64% of patients had jaundice

Prevention:

- Get vaccinated against hepatitis B.
- Do not share syringes or injection kit equipment.
- Practice safe sex
- Do not share razors, toothbrushes, tattooing or piercing needles.
- Get tested for hepatitis B, especially if you are a person who injects drugs, were ever incarcerated, born between 1945-1965 or received an unlicensed tattoo.
- If you have hepatitis B, seek medical care.

For more information visit:
https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hbv/index.htm

Demographics:

- 66% of patients were male
- 42 years old on average
- 98% White
- 1% African American
- 1% Unknown race

Geography:

Maine has the 9th highest rate of acute hepatitis B in the US

Increase since 2015:

2013 2014 2015 2016 2017

Rate per 100,000

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All suspected or confirmed cases of acute hepatitis B must be immediately reported to Maine CDC by calling 1-800-821-5821.