March 2019

Request for Hepatitis A IgM positive samples

State and local epidemiologists have identified a cluster of Hepatitis A (HAV) cases in Idaho (Outbreak # 2019-011). To support this cluster investigation, the Idaho Bureau of Laboratories (IBL) is requesting that clinical laboratories forward HAV IgM positive samples to the IBL virology laboratory. Submitted samples will be forwarded to CDC for genotyping, which could help us determine if this cluster has a common transmission source. Please submit HAV IgM positive serum samples (at least 1 mL) collected within 4 weeks of symptom onset. Unpreserved HAV reactive stool (5 grams maximum) is also an acceptable specimen for HAV testing at CDC. If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact Vonnita Barton, IBL Clinical Section manager (vonnita.barton@dhw.idaho.gov or 208-334-0530).

Message Categories
Lab Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.
Lab Advisory: important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.
Lab Update: updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.