The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends the hepatitis A vaccine to appropriate unvaccinated adults who are at risk for hepatitis A virus infection. According to the CDC, some examples of these groups include:

- International travelers to regions with increased rates of hepatitis A
- People with chronic liver disease
- Users of injection and non-injection drugs
- People experiencing homelessness
- Men who have sex with men

Please refer to the CDC’s Pink Book and the ACIP Schedule for the complete hepatitis A vaccination recommendations and full list of special situations recommended for hepatitis A vaccination.

ACIP=Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

International travel and hepatitis A

- In the United States, an important risk factor for contracting hepatitis A, among others, is international travel.
- According to the CDC, persons traveling to countries that have high or intermediate rates of hepatitis A should be vaccinated before traveling.
International travel and hepatitis A (cont’d)

- The risk for hepatitis A exists even for travelers to urban areas, those who stay in luxury hotels, and those who report that they are careful about what they drink and eat\(^4\)
- Some travel experts advise people traveling outside the United States to consider vaccination against hepatitis A regardless of their destination\(^3\)

Chronic liver disease and hepatitis A

- Patients with chronic liver disease are not at increased risk for hepatitis A virus infection; however, they are at increased risk for complications should they become infected\(^1\)
- Complications among patients with chronic liver disease include fulminant hepatitis A (rapid onset of liver failure), which is often fatal\(^1\)
- The CDC recommends that appropriate patients with chronic liver disease receive hepatitis A vaccination\(^1,2\)

References: