Viral Hepatitis Surveillance:
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)

The Colorado Viral Hepatitis Program (CVHP) at CDPHE collects and analyze viral hepatitis data in order to:

describe the disease burden in Colorado;
conduct follow-up with infected persons; and,
provide data that can guide prevention and control activities.

How does CDPHE identify cases of viral hepatitis?
All health care providers and laboratories must report to CDPHE the positive results of specific tests for hepatitis A, B, and C. These reports are mandated under the Colorado Revised Statutes (§ 25-1-122, C.R.S., § 25-4-502, C.R.S. and § 25-4-1402, C.R.S.) and Colorado Board of Health Rules and Regulations.

What does CDPHE do when it finds a person has hepatitis A, B, or C?
The Communicable Disease Program investigates hepatitis A cases and the Viral Hepatitis Program follows hepatitis B and C cases. Both programs work with healthcare providers and local public health agencies to collect information. An investigation may only require confirmation that the test is truly positive. It can also require an interview with the patient. The interview is used to understand how the person became infected and determine the risk of spreading the infection to other people.

What does CDPHE do with the information on people with hepatitis A, B, or C?
The information is kept confidential and secured. Some information may be used to notify others of a potential exposure and need for testing. This can be done without releasing personal information, and every precaution is taken to protect any personal information. CDPHE complies with the U.S. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996. For more information on this act, go to http://aspe.hhs.gov/admnsimp/pl104191.htm.

How can I find out if I tested positive for viral hepatitis?
If you think you tested positive for viral hepatitis, you should talk to your healthcare provider. If CDPHE has any records of your infection, it cannot release them to you without a written request that is signed and notarized.