

Overview: What Family Practice Providers Need to Know

Disease Burden

Worldwide:

- 350 million people chronically infected with hepatitis B virus (HBV)¹
- 620,000 die due to HBV related liver disease¹

United States:

- 800,000 - 1.4 million people chronically infected with HBV¹
- 2,000 - 4,000 die due to HBV related liver disease¹
- 20,000 infants born yearly to hepatitis B surface antigen-positive (HBsAg-positive) women²
- 1,000 infants chronically infected annually due to infected mothers not being identified and not receiving appropriate post-exposure prophylaxis²

Michigan:

- 400-592 infants born to HBsAg-positive women should be identified annually³
- 200-300 people reported annually with acute HBV infection⁴
- 300 infants born to HBsAg-positive women reported annually⁴

Prevention

Prevention of perinatal hepatitis B transmission requires the coordinated transfer of information between laboratories, primary care providers, hospitals, and the local/state health departments to ensure:

- Pregnant women are screened for HBsAg and results are transmitted to delivery hospital and local health department (LHD) in the county where the patient resides
- Household and sexual contacts of HBsAg-positive pregnant women are identified, tested and immunized if susceptible
- Infants of HBsAg-positive women receive appropriate prophylaxis and post-vaccination serology

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) FAQs for the Public, July 2008 <http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/HBV/HBVfaq.htm#overview>

² Guidelines for Viral Hepatitis Surveillance and Case Management, November 2007 <http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/SurveillanceGuidelines.htm>

³ Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) Point Estimates

⁴ Michigan's Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program Annual CDC Report