

Overview: What Hospitals Need to Know

Disease Burden:

- 20,000 infants born annually to hepatitis B surface antigen-positive (HBsAg-positive) women in the United States¹
- 1,000 infants chronically infected annually due to infected mothers not being identified and not receiving appropriate post-exposure prophylaxis at birth¹
- 400-592 infants born to HBsAg-positive women should be identified annually in Michigan²
- 300 infants born to HBsAg-positive women reported annually in Michigan³

Prevention:

Prevention of perinatal hepatitis B transmission requires the coordinated transfer of information between laboratories, prenatal care providers, hospital staff, and the local/state health departments. All hospitals should implement policies and procedures which include standing orders to ensure that all:

Pregnant women:

- Have a copy of the original HBsAg laboratory report in their medical record (*Do not rely on a handwritten or transcribed HBsAg test result*)
- Without a copy of original HBsAg laboratory report **for the current pregnancy** are tested **STAT**
- Who have a HBsAg-negative test result, but who are at risk for hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection are tested again at the time of hospital admission
- Who have a HBsAg-positive test result are reported within 24 hours, after discovery or diagnosis, to the local health department
- Who have a HBsAg-positive test result are reported to the Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program (PHBPP)

Babies:

- Have a copy of the original maternal HBsAg laboratory report in their medical record **for the current pregnancy** (*Do not rely on a handwritten or transcribed HBsAg test result*)
- Born to HBsAg-positive women:
 - Receive and have documented administration of the hepatitis B (hepB) vaccine and hepatitis B immune globulin (HBIG) within 12 hours of birth in their medical record
 - Are reported to the PHBPP
 - Born to HBsAg-negative women receive hepB vaccine prior to hospital discharge
- Born to women with unknown HBsAg status receive hepB vaccine within 12 hours of birth and HBIG if their mother is found to be HBsAg-positive

¹ Guidelines for Viral Hepatitis Surveillance and Case Management, November 2007 <http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/SurveillanceGuidelines.htm>

² Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) Point Estimates

³ Michigan's Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program Annual CDC Report