Health Care Provider Responsibilities for Pregnant Women

Providers are required to test all pregnant women routinely for hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) during an early prenatal visit (e.g., first trimester) in each pregnancy, even if they have been previously vaccinated or tested.

If POSITIVE

Report results to local health department within 24 hours of diagnosis or discovery

Notify patient of test results, counsel and provide or refer for appropriate care

Forward HBsAg lab results with prenatal records to delivering hospital labor and delivery unit with "flag" of patient's HBsAg-positive status

Notify baby's health care provider of mom's HBsAg-positive status

Advocate for the baby to get hepatitis B (hepB) vaccine and hepatitis B immune globulin (HBIG) within 12 hours of birth

Repeat blood test in last trimester if patient is **high risk***

Notify patient of test results

If NEGATIVE

Notify patient of test results

Assess, counsel and vaccinate if **high risk***

Forward HBsAg lab result with prenatal records to delivering hospital labor and delivery unit

Advocate for the baby to get hepB vaccine at birth

***High risk**: (e.g., immigrant from an endemic area, more than one sex partner in the previous 6 months, evaluated or treated for a sexually transmitted disease, partner of or a recent or current injection-drug user, household or sexual contact of an HBsAg-positive person, incarcerated, hemodialysis patient, or had clinical hepatitis since previous testing)