

Reporting Hepatitis B Surface Antigen-Positive (HBsAg-positive) Pregnant Women to the Local Health Department

One of the primary goals of the Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program (PHBPP) is to identify all pregnant women who test positive for HBsAg prenatally so that their newborns can receive the appropriate prophylaxis. Therefore, it is very important that health care providers who offer prenatal services report all HBsAg-positive test results within 24 hours of discovery or diagnosis to the local health department (LHD) in the county where the patient resides.

Directions:

To ensure that all HBsAg-positive pregnant women are identified and their lab results are reported in a timely manner, do one of the following:

1. Fax a copy of the HBsAg test results to the LHD/Communicable Disease Unit in the county where the patient resides. ([optional: Physician's Report Form and/or Fax Cover Sheet](#))
2. Report all HBsAg-positive results electronically through the Michigan Disease Surveillance System (MDSS). (If you are not currently enrolled in MDSS, please contact your LHD/Communicable Disease Unit.)
3. Call your LHD directly. ([Directory of Michigan Health Departments by County, see page 2](#))

Other considerations:

1. Identify who is responsible and accountable for communicable disease reporting in your practice.
2. Review the [Reportable Diseases in Michigan](#) with all staff and post the [Hepatitis B Testing in Pregnant Women](#) as a quick reference tool.

If you have any questions please call the PHBPP staff at 517-335-8122 or 800-964-4487. In southeast Michigan, call 313-456-4431 or 313-456-4432.

Communicable Disease Rules, Section 333.5111, Act No. 368, Public Acts of 1978, as amended in R325.171, R325.172, and R325.173. In R325.173, Rule 3 (1), a physician shall report each case of a serious communicable disease specified in R325.172, except for human immunodeficiency virus infection and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome which is governed by MCL 333.5114, within 24 hours of diagnosis or discovery, to the appropriate health department.

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA): Sharing of public health information (PHI) with public health authorities is addressed in §164.512(b): (1) Permitted disclosures: A covered entity may disclose protected health information for the public health activities and purposes to: (i) A public health authority that is authorized by law to collect or receive such information for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease, injury, or disability, including but not limited to, the reporting of disease, injury, vital events such as birth or death, and the conduct of public health surveillance, public health investigations, and public health interventions.