



Overview: What Pediatricians Need to Know

Disease Burden

United States:

- 24,000 hepatitis B surface antigen-positive (HBsAg-positive) women give birth annually¹
- 12,000 infants and children would be infected annually with the hepatitis B virus (HBV) without the appropriate post-exposure prophylaxis to prevent perinatal HBV infection¹
- Chronic HBV infection develops in:
 - 90% of infants infected at birth²
 - 25%-50% of children infected between 1-5 years of age²
 - 6%-10% of children infected at 6 years of age and older²

Michigan:

- 361-564 infants born to HBsAg-positive women should be identified annually³
- 256 infants born to HBsAg-positive women were identified annually over the last 5 years.⁴
- 83 HBsAg-positive children (under 19 years of age) have been reported annually over the last 5 years⁵

Prevention

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

- Maternal HBsAg status is verified to determine the appropriate care needed for all pediatric patients
- Household children/adolescent contacts of HBsAg-positive women are identified, tested and immunized if susceptible
- Infants of HBsAg-positive women receive appropriate prophylaxis and post-vaccination serology

¹ Manual for Surveillance of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (5th Edition, 2011) <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/surv-manual/chpt04-hepb.html>

² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Hepatitis B FAQs for the Public, 2009 <http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/b/bfaq.htm>

³ CDC Point Estimates

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

⁵ Michigan's Disease Surveillance System (MDSS)