

Overview: What Pediatricians Need to Know

Disease Burden

United States:*

- 20,000 infants born annually to hepatitis B surface antigen-positive (HBsAg-positive) women¹
- 1,000 infants chronically infected with hepatitis B virus (HBV) annually due to infected mothers not being identified and the infant not receiving appropriate post-exposure prophylaxis¹
- 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:

- 400-592 infants born to HBsAg-positive women should be identified annually³
- 300 infants born to HBsAg-positive women reported annually⁴
- 50 children (under 18 years of age) reported as HBsAg-positive annually from 1999-2008⁵

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

² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) FAQs for the Public, July 2008 <http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/HBV/HBVfaq.htm#overview>

³ CDC Point Estimates

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

⁵ Michigan's Disease Surveillance System (MDSS) http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2945_5104_31274---,00.html