Overview: What Hospitals Need to Know

Disease Burden:

- 24,000 hepatitis B surface antigen-positive (HBsAg-positive) women are expected to give birth yearly in the United States\(^1\)
- 12,000 infants and children would be infected with hepatitis B virus (HBV) annually, without post-exposure prophylaxis to prevent perinatal HBV infection\(^1\)
- **355-553** infants born to HBsAg-positive women should be identified annually in Michigan\(^2\)
- **ONLY** - 204 infants born to HBsAg-positive women on average are reported annually in Michigan\(^3\)
- **ONLY** - 53% of HBsAg-positive pregnant women are being identified annually\(^3\)

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 HBsAg laboratory results for the current pregnancy in their medical record (**Do not rely on a handwritten or transcribed HBsAg test result**)
- Without HBsAg laboratory results for the current pregnancy are tested STAT
- Who have a HBsAg-negative test result, but who are at risk for 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 (or a link) to maternal HBsAg laboratory results for the current pregnancy in their medical record (**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 within 24 hours of birth
- 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

If you have any questions, please call the PHBPP at 517-284-4893 or 800-964-4487. In southeast Michigan, call 313-456-4431 or 313-456-4432.

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

\(^3\) Michigan’s Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program Annual CDC Report

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