

Who should get the hepB vaccine?

You should get the hepB vaccine if you:

- Live with someone who has HBV.
- Have more than one sex partner.
- Have a sexually transmitted disease.
- Are pre-dialysis, on dialysis or have end-stage renal disease.
- Receive blood products.
- Have liver disease – including hepatitis C virus (HCV).
- Have diabetes.
- Come into contact with blood at your job.
- Inject drugs or are a partner of someone who injects drugs.
- Have HIV.
- Travel to endemic areas.
- Want to be safe from getting HBV.

PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN TODAY BY HAVING THEM GET THEIR HEPATITIS B VACCINES!

Should older children get the hepB vaccine?

All children and teenagers should get the hepB vaccine. Parents should talk to their children's healthcare provider about getting the vaccine.

Your health care provider should look in the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR) to see what vaccines your child still needs.

Paying for vaccines

If your child does not have health insurance, or does not have insurance that covers vaccines, ask your healthcare provider or local health department (LHD) about the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. This program is for eligible children 18 years of age and younger.

More information

For more information, call your child's healthcare provider, your LHD, or the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program (PHBPP) at 517-388-4815, 517-897-3236 or 517-242-8319.

Or go to:

- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** cdc.gov/hepatitis
- **Hepatitis B Online Support Groups** hepb.org/resources-and-support/online-support-groups
- **Hep B Moms** hepbmoms.org
- **Immunization.Org** vaccineinformation.org or immunize.org/birthdose
- **MDHHS - PHBPP Manual** (Hep B positive pregnant persons section) michigan.gov/hepatitisB
- **Vaccine Education Center** chop.edu/vaccine



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Hepatitis B: What Parents Need to Know



With special information for
childbearing persons.



What is hepatitis B virus (HBV)?

HBV is a disease caused by a virus that infects the liver. People often show no signs of having the virus. Most people who have HBV get better in a few months, but some carry the virus in their blood all their lives (they are called carriers). In the U.S., over 14,000 people get HBV every year, and about 1 million people are carriers.

♥ Babies can get HBV at birth if they are born to someone who has HBV.

♥ Babies, children, teens, and adults may also get HBV if they come into contact with blood or body fluids from others, they live with who have HBV.

♥ The younger you are when you get HBV, the more likely you will have the disease for the rest of your life.

How do you get HBV?

You can get HBV:

♥ • **At birth, if you are born to a childbearing person who has the virus.**

- By having sex with someone who has the virus.
- By sharing needles or equipment to inject or prepare drugs with someone who has the virus.
- By sharing items that may have blood on them (razors, toothbrushes, nail clippers, ear piercing, body piercing, tattoo equipment, or medical equipment like a glucose monitor).

Many people with HBV do not know how they got it.

How do you know if you have HBV?

HBV can make you feel tired or sick and can sometimes make your skin and eyes yellow.

Many people do not know they have HBV because they do not feel or look sick. Even if you do not look or feel sick, you can still get liver disease and give HBV to others.

The only way to know if you have HBV is to get a blood test.

♥ **Pregnant persons should be tested for hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) during EVERY pregnancy to see if they have HBV.**

Is the vaccine safe?

The hepatitis B (hepB) vaccine is very safe. The most common side effect is soreness at the place where the vaccine was given.

Before babies are given the hepB vaccine, their parents should be given a form called *Hepatitis B Vaccine, What You Need To Know - Vaccine Information Statement (VIS)*. Parents are asked to read the form and then talk with their healthcare provider if they have questions.

How can babies be safe from getting HBV?

♥ If a test shows that a pregnant person has HBV in their blood, the baby born to them can get HBV at birth.

♥ **Babies born to childbearing persons who have HBV need:**

- **Hepatitis B immune globulin (HBIG) and hepB vaccine WITHIN 12 HOURS OF BIRTH.**
- **A 2nd hepB vaccine at 1-2 months of age.**
- **A 3rd hepB vaccine at 6 months of age.**
- **A blood test at 9-12 months of age to make sure they are safe from getting HBV.**

Babies born to childbearing persons who do NOT have HBV should also get the hepB vaccine:

- Starting at birth.
- At 1-2 months of age.
- At or after 6 months of age.

