

Overview: What Obstetricians-Gynecologists Need to Know

Disease Burden

United States:

- Greater than 862,000 people are living with chronic hepatitis B virus (HBV)¹
- 30–59-year-olds have the highest rates of acute HBV infection¹
- 24,000 hepatitis B surface antigen-positive (HBsAg-positive) pregnant persons are expected to give birth yearly¹
- 1,000 newborns are infected with HBV annually¹
- 43% of estimated HBsAg-positive pregnant persons are **NOT** being identified²

Michigan:

- **289-440** infants born to HBsAg-positive persons should be identified annually²
- **39%** of estimated number of HBsAg-positive pregnant persons are being identified²

Prevention³

Prenatal care providers need to:

- **TEST** every pregnant person during every pregnancy for HBsAg (**even if they have been previously vaccinated or tested, including those previously identified as being chronically infected**)
- **INFORM** pregnant persons of their HBsAg status
- **FORWARD** prenatal HBsAg test results, for this pregnancy to delivery hospital

If the patient is HBsAg-positive:

- **REPORT** every HBsAg-positive result to the local health department (LHD) within 24 hours (**including those who have been previously reported due to chronic infection**)
 - MI law requires ordering physicians **AND** labs to report HBsAg-positive results to the LHD,
 - And **pregnancy status**, if available
- **REPORT** every HBsAg-positive result for those of childbearing age (10-60 years of age) to MDHHS Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program (PHBPP) – **Electronic fax # 517-763-0470**
- **COUNSEL** and provide or refer for medical evaluation and case management
- **ADVOCATE** for baby to get hepatitis B (hepB) vaccine and hepatitis B immune globulin (HBIG) within 12 hours of birth

If the patient is HBsAg-negative:

- **ASSESS** risk for HBV infection
- **COUNSEL** and provide transmission and prevention education
- **VACCINATE** if high-risk
- **ADVOCATE** for baby to get hepB vaccine within 24 hours of birth

If you have any questions, please call the PHBPP at 517-388-4815, 517-897-3236, 517-242-8319 or visit www.michigan.gov/hepatitisB

¹ U.S Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) – Hepatitis B Surveillance Guidance (last reviewed 2021) - [Viral Hepatitis Surveillance and Case Management - Hepatitis B | CDC](#)

² Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) Point Estimates (2020 births)

³ Prevention of HBV Infection in the U.S.: Recommendations of the ACIP, Jan 12, 2018: <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/67/rr/rr6701a1.htm>