

## Overview: What Pediatricians Need to Know

### Disease Burden

United States:

- 24,000 hepatitis B surface antigen-positive (HBsAg-positive) persons are expected to give birth annually<sup>1</sup>.
- 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 infection<sup>1</sup>.
- Chronic HBV infection develops in:
  - 90% of infants infected at birth<sup>2</sup>.
  - 25%-50% of children infected between 1-5 years of age<sup>2</sup>.
  - 6%-10% of children infected at 6 years of age and older<sup>2</sup>.

Michigan:

- **276-426** infants born to HBsAg-positive persons should be identified annually<sup>3</sup>.
- On average, 140 infants born to HBsAg-positive persons annually over the last five years<sup>4</sup>.

### 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 persons are identified, tested, and vaccinated if susceptible.
- Infants of HBsAg-positive persons receive appropriate prophylaxis and post-vaccination serology.

If you have any questions, please call the PHBPP at 517-388-4815, 517-897-3236 or 517-242-8319.

<sup>1</sup>Manual for Surveillance of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (March 2020) <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/surv-manual/chpt04-hepb.html>

<sup>2</sup>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Hepatitis B FAQs for the Public, (2022), <http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/b/bfaq.htm>

<sup>3</sup>CDC Point Estimates (2020 data)

<sup>4</sup>Michigan's Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program Annual CDC Report (2021)