Preventing Perinatal Hepatitis B — Guidelines for Labor and Delivery Units

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1 HOSPITAL ADMISSION

Step 1

☐ **Review HBsAg status of pregnant woman who is admitted for labor and delivery**

- ☐ Accept *only original laboratory reports from licensed U.S. lab* as documentation for mother's hepatitis B status
- ☐ Verify the hepatitis B test date and that the test was performed during this pregnancy

Step 2

☐ **Perform HBsAg testing as soon as possible on:**

- ☐ Women without a documented HBsAg test result
- ☐ Women with clinical hepatitis
- ☐ Women who tested **HBsAg-POSITIVE** ***and*** **HBsAg-NEGATIVE** within 6 months during current pregnancy

In addition to HBsAg, **Order STAT:**

⇒Total Anti—HBc (Antibody to Hepatitis B Core Antigen)

⇒IgM anti—HBc

⇒HBV DNA

Step 3

☐ **INSTRUCT** Lab to contact L&D and/or Nursery with results as soon as possible.

Step 4

☐ **REVIEW** the Interpretation of Hepatitis B Serologic Test Results to determine the patient's hepatitis status.

Step 5

☐ **RETEST** women who have engaged in high-risk behaviors (e.g. recent injection or IV drug use, HBsAg-positive sex partner, >1 sex partner in the past 6 months, or evaluation or treatment for a sexually transmitted disease during pregnancy).

2 AFTER BIRTH: VACCINE RECOMMENDATIONS

Step 1 — **Infant born to HBsAg-POSITIVE mother**

☐ Administer single-antigen hepatitis B vaccine and HBIG to infant within 12 hours of birth

Step 2 — **Infant born to mother with UNKNOWN HBsAg status**

Infant weighing < 2,000 g:

☐ Administer single-antigen hepatitis B vaccine and HBIG within 12 hours of birth

Infant weighting ≥ 2,000 g:

☐ Administer single-antigen hepatitis B vaccine within 12 hours of birth.

☐ If mother is later determined to be **HBsAg-POSITIVE** , administer HBIG as soon as possible, or within 7 days of birth.

Step 3 — **Infants born to HBsAg-NEGATIVE mothers**

☐ Medically stable infant weighing ≥ 2,000 g: administer a dose of single-antigen hepatitis B vaccine within 24 hours of birth.

☐ Preterm infant weighing < 2,000 g: administer the first dose of vaccine at hospital discharge or 1 month after birth.

3 AFTER BIRTH: REPORTING RECOMMENDATIONS

Step 1 ☐ Notify the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health of all births to women with **POSITIVE OR UNKNOWN** HBsAg status within **24 hours**.

Step 2 ☐ Fax Delivery Report form **Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Unit** (PHBPU): (213) 351-2781.

Delivery Report form: www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip/perinatalhepB/Materials/HospitalReport.pdf

4 HOSPITAL DISCHARGE

Step 1 ☐ **If infant is discharged prior to HBsAg test result availability, ALERT** the infant's health-care provider and mother/guardian to administer HBIG to the infant no later than 7 days after birth.

Step 2 ☐ **If infant is transferring to a different facility after birth, COMMUNICATE** with receiving facility regarding the infant's HepB vaccination and HBIG status *(ideally given at transferring facility).*

Step 3 ☐ **DISCUSS** with mother the importance of the infant completing the full hepatitis B vaccine series on schedule.

Step 4 ☐ **INFORM** the mother that the infant will need a post-vaccination serology (PVS) test after completion of the vaccine series at 9-12 months of age to ensure vaccine effectiveness.

Step 5 ☐ **GIVE** the infant's immunization record to the mother and **REMIND** her to take it to the infant's first health care provider visit.

Step 6 ☐ **REFER** mom to a health care provider for liver monitoring and/or long-term care of chronic hepatitis B.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Vaccine Preventable Disease Control Program Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Unit: http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip/perinatalhepb_providers.htm
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hbv/perinatalxmtn.htm
- California Department of Public Health: https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/disease.aspx
- Interpretation of Hepatitis B Serologic Test Results: https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hbv/pdfs/serologicchartv8.pdf

PATIENT EDUCATION MATERIALS

- How To Protect Your Baby From Hepatitis B http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip/perinatalhepb_ed.htm
  English Spanish Chinese Vietnamese Korean
- Vaccinate Your Baby Against Hepatitis B English Spanish
- Protect Your Baby for Life (Multiple languages) https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hbv/perinatalxmtn.htm

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