

If You Have Hepatitis B, Protect Your Baby




IF YOU HAVE HEPATITIS B, PROTECT YOUR BABY

USE THIS CHART TO TRACK YOUR CARE AND YOUR BABY'S CARE

If you have hepatitis B, the virus can be transmitted to your newborn through your blood at birth. The baby can then carry this serious disease for a lifetime. To prevent infection, make sure your baby is protected with immunizations. Also, see your doctor regularly to take care of your hepatitis B and avoid liver damage.

DURING PREGNANCY

- Get blood tests.

 Hep B Viral Load
Liver tests
Hep B e antigen

If your disease is severe, your doctor may talk to you about taking hepatitis B medication.

- Make sure your spouse and those living with you are tested for hepatitis B.
- See a doctor regularly for hepatitis B.



AT BIRTH

- Tell the staff at the hospital you have hepatitis B.
- Baby must receive 2 shots within 12 hours of birth to protect from infection.



One shot of hepatitis B immunoglobulin (HBIG)



1st shot of the hepatitis B vaccine

Once baby gets the HBIG shot and hepatitis B vaccine, it is safe to breastfeed. Hospital staff will give you an immunization card to track baby's shots. Bring this card to all of your baby's doctor visits.

AFTER DELIVERY

1-2 MONTHS

- Make sure your baby receives the **2nd shot** of the hepatitis B vaccine.



6 MONTHS

- Make sure baby receives the **3rd shot** of hepatitis B vaccine. This shot should not be given before 6 months, or baby will not be protected.



9-18 MONTHS

- Make sure baby gets a blood test to check if he or she is protected after the shots. This is special for babies born to mothers with hepatitis B.

 HBsAg
HBsAb

Check the test result:

_____ Protected
_____ Not Protected*
_____ Infected

* If baby is not fully protected from hepatitis B, the doctor will repeat the vaccines.

IF YOUR BABY IS CARED FOR IN CHINA

- The caretaker must tell the new doctor that baby's mother has hepatitis B. It is very important to make sure the baby gets the 2nd and 3rd dose of the vaccine.
- Your baby must get the 3rd shot at 6 months and not earlier.
- Ask the doctor to test your baby by 15 months to check if he or she is protected from hepatitis B. This is not done for all babies, so the caretaker should request it because it is important for your baby. Keep a copy of the results.
- When your child returns to the United States, bring your child's vaccination records from China, and schedule a check up for your child. Immunization records are needed for children to enter to school.



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