



How can you protect your baby from getting hepatitis B?

Babies born to women with hepatitis B get two shots within 12 hours of birth. One shot is the first dose of hepatitis B vaccine and the other shot is called hepatitis B immune globulin (HBIG).

After getting the 3 hepatitis B shots by 6 months of age, babies will need a blood test at 9 months of age to make sure they are protected from infection and do not have hepatitis B.

Age	Your baby will need
Birth	1st dose of hepatitis B vaccine and HBIG
1-2 months	2nd dose of hepatitis B vaccine
6 months	3rd dose of hepatitis B vaccine
9-12 months	Post-vaccination serologic testing to make sure your baby is protected from hepatitis B

What is hepatitis B?

Hepatitis B is a serious liver disease that is caused by a virus. Some people are able to fight the infection and clear the hepatitis B virus. For others, the virus remains in their body and becomes a chronic, or lifelong illness.

Hepatitis B can cause serious health problems over time, including liver damage, liver failure, and liver cancer.

Most people who have hepatitis B have no symptoms and may not know they have it. But they can still pass hepatitis B to others.

**PREVENT HEPATITIS B.
GET YOUR BABY VACCINATED.**

Is the vaccine safe?

Hepatitis B vaccine is one the safest vaccines available. It has been around since 1982 and has proven to be safe and effective.

What could happen if my baby isn't vaccinated?

9 out of 10 babies who get infected in the first year of life will stay infected for life. Hepatitis B can cause serious health problems like liver failure or liver cancer.

9 out of 10 babies, children, and adolescents who get the vaccine will be protected for life.



How is hepatitis B spread?

- +** **Birth** – hepatitis B can be spread from an infected mother to her baby during the birthing process.
- +** **Blood** – hepatitis B can be spread through direct contact with infected blood.
- +** **Sex** – hepatitis B can be spread through unprotected sex with a person that is infected with hepatitis B.

You CANNOT get hepatitis B from coughing, sneezing, breastfeeding, food or water, kissing, hugging, or sharing utensils with someone who is infected.



For more information

Call your child's healthcare provider, the local parish health unit, or visit:

Center for Disease Control and Prevention
(CDC)

www.cdc.gov/hepatitis.hbv

Immunization Action Coalition
www.immunize.org/hepatitis-b/



Why should pregnant women be concerned about hepatitis B?

Hepatitis B is a contagious liver disease that can be easily passed from a pregnant women to her baby at birth. Fortunately, there is a vaccine to prevent babies from getting hepatitis B from their mothers.

Babies who become infected with hepatitis B have a 90% chance of developing a lifelong, chronic infection.



Hepatitis B Information for Pregnant Women

Hepatitis B vaccine is recommended for all children and provides lifelong protection against hepatitis B infection.

Contact Us

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