

# Obstetrical Tip Sheet for Hepatitis B Screening, Testing, and Management of Pregnant Women

Screening with HBsAg\* should be performed in each pregnancy, regardless of previous HBV\* vaccination or previous negative HBsAg test results. Offer triple panel (HBsAg, anti-HBs, total anti-HBc\*) screening to all pregnant women ≥18 years of age who have not previously been screened with a triple panel.

	FIRST TRIMESTER 1-13 weeks	SECOND TRIMESTER 14-27 weeks	THIRD TRIMESTER ≥28weeks	DELIVERY AND POSTPARTUM
<b>SCREENING AND TESTING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Screen all pregnant women for HBsAg at first prenatal visit. Screen with triple panel if not previously screened.</li> <li>-All positive HBsAg results during the pregnancy should be confirmed with a licensed HBsAg neutralizing test according to manufacturer labeling.</li> <li>- If HBsAg positive, check HBV DNA.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Screen for HBsAg those not previously screened during current pregnancy. See first trimester for specific details.</li> <li>- Check/recheck HBV DNA for all HBsAg positive women not on anti-viral treatment at 26-28 weeks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Screen for HBsAg those not previously screened during current pregnancy. See first trimester for specific details.</li> <li>- Check/recheck HBV DNA for all HBsAg positive women not on anti-viral treatment at 26-28 weeks or if DNA not checked at/after 26 weeks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Screen for HBsAg those not previously screened during current pregnancy.</li> <li>- Rescreen for HBsAg pregnant women with clinical hepatitis or risk exposures† during pregnancy at the time of admission to the hospital or birthing facility for delivery.</li> </ul>
<b>MANAGEMENT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- After initial HBsAg screen is drawn for current pregnancy, initiate vaccine series with Engerix-B, Recombivax-HB or Twinrix§ for those who have not previously been vaccinated.</li> <li>- Report HBsAg positives to Perinatal Hepatitis B Coordinator and refer to specialty care.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- After initial HBsAg screen is drawn for current pregnancy, initiate vaccine series if needed. See first trimester for specific details.</li> <li>- Report HBsAg positives to Perinatal Hepatitis B Coordinator and refer to specialty care.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- After initial HBsAg screen is drawn for current pregnancy, initiate vaccine series if needed. See first trimester for specific details.</li> <li>- Report HBsAg positives to Perinatal Hepatitis B Coordinator and refer to specialty care.</li> <li>- If HBV DNA is &gt;200,000 IU/mL, treat at 28-32 weeks until birth.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Post-exposure prophylaxis¶ for infants born to HBsAg positive pregnant women and for infants weighing less than 2,000 grams born to pregnant women with unknown HBsAg status.</li> <li>- Initiate mother's vaccine series if needed. See first trimester for specific details.</li> <li>- Breastfeeding does not increase the risk of HBV transmission to infants.</li> <li>- Report HBsAg positives to Perinatal Hepatitis B Coordinator and refer to specialty care.</li> </ul>

\*Abbreviations: HBsAg=hepatitis B (HepB) surface antigen; HBV= HepB virus; anti-HBsAg= antibody to HepB surface antigen; total anti-HBc= total antibody to HepB core antigen

† Recent or current injection-drug use, more than one sex partner in the previous 6 months, HBsAg-positive sex partner, or evaluated or treated for a sexually transmitted infection

§Heplisav and Prehevbrio are not recommended during pregnancy due to lack of safety data; Twinrix is a combination hepatitis A/hepatitis B vaccine that can be given during pregnancy when indicated(<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/imz/adult.html>)

¶Post-exposure prophylaxis: administer HepB immunoglobulin and HepB vaccine to the infant within 12 hours of birth and notify infant's Health Care Provider to f/u for timely vaccination and post vaccination serologic testing

**Adapted from:**

Weng MK, Doshani M, Mohammed AK, et al. [Universal Hepatitis B Vaccination in Adults Aged 19–59 Years: Updated Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices — United States, 2022.](#)

Connors EE, Panagiotakopoulos L, Hofmeister MG, et al. [Screening and Testing for Hepatitis B Virus Infection: CDC Recommendations — United States, 2023.](#)

Terrault NA, Bzowej NH, Chang K-M, et al. [AASLD guidelines for treatment of chronic hepatitis B.](#) Hepatology 2016;63(1):261-83.

Schillie S, Vellozzi C, Reingold A, et al. [Prevention of Hepatitis B Virus Infection in the United States: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.](#)



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