

HEPATITIS B

in Pregnancy



Hepatitis B is a virus that can cause **liver damage and liver cancer**. It is most commonly **transmitted from mother to child during birth**. This transmission can be prevented with a few simple steps:

1



TESTING

All pregnant persons should be **tested for hepatitis B in early pregnancy**.

Testing includes:

- Hepatitis B Surface Antigen (HBsAg)
- Hepatitis B Surface Antibody (HBsAb),
- and Hepatitis B Core Antibody (HBCAb).

2



TREATMENT

If you test positive for hepatitis B, talk to your doctor about starting treatment during your second trimester.



Hepatitis B treatment can help reduce the risk of transmission to your baby. Treatment is an antiviral medication taken daily.

3



PREVENTION

ALL BABIES should get the hepatitis B birth dose within the **first 12-24 hours** of life, regardless of the mother's status. *



Dose 1: Birth Dose within 12-24 hours of birth



Dose 2: 1-2 months after the first dose



Dose 3: 6 months after the first dose

Getting your baby vaccinated on time can help protect them from hepatitis B and liver cancer later in life.

*Babies born to mothers living with hepatitis B should also receive a dose of hepatitis B immune globulin (HBIG) - a fast-acting medication that aids in protecting against the hepatitis B virus.

MORE WAYS TO PROTECT YOU AND YOUR BABY

- Completing **all three doses** of the hepatitis B vaccine series is necessary to provide long-term protection.
- If you start treatment during pregnancy, talk to your doctor about options for staying on treatment afterwards, or for any additional pregnancies that you might be planning.

DON'T FORGET:

- ✓ Testing your baby at 9 months to check hepatitis status is recommended.
- ✓ Breastfeeding is safe to do while living with hepatitis B. Hepatitis B is not transmitted through breastmilk.
- ✓ Family members and household contacts should also get tested.

Testing, treatment and vaccination help give your baby a bright, healthy future.

You've got this!