

# A LIFETIME of PROTECTION



Providing a **hepatitis B** birth dose to all U.S. newborns prevents chronic infection and **liver cancer**.



## Protect Your Baby from Day One

Strong immunization recommendations have saved millions of lives, and hepatitis B is no exception. Hepatitis B, a virus that attacks and damages the liver, is the world's leading cause of liver cancer. While the virus can only be transmitted through direct blood contact with infected blood, starting with the birth dose ensures your child is protected from day one - preventing chronic infection and reducing the risk of liver cancer for life.

## Liver Cancer Prevention Starts at Birth



### Vaccination protects against what we can't see

- Not all mothers are tested correctly—or at all—for hepatitis B. Even when testing is done, results may be missed, delayed, or inaccurate, leaving babies unprotected.
- In some cases, household and caregiver transmission can occur if an adult or child has hepatitis B but is unaware or untested. This may happen through common, small open wounds, like a scratch or diaper rash, or from dried blood on shared items like nail clippers.



### Three doses for a healthy future

The World Health Organization (WHO) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), driven by decades of well-researched scientific evidence, recommend that the hepatitis B vaccine be given to all infants within the first 24 hours of birth, with two additional doses given at 1 month and 6 months of age to achieve lifelong protection.



### Protecting our most vulnerable

Infants are especially vulnerable to hepatitis B. When infected early in life, up to 90% will develop chronic infection, placing them at significant risk of cirrhosis, liver cancer and premature death. Timely vaccination provides each baby with a healthy start and a lifetime of protection.

**The hepatitis B vaccine is the best tool we have to prevent liver cancer from the start.**



It protects all babies—regardless of risk or circumstance—and helps close gaps in a fragmented healthcare system.