Testing for Hepatitis B Virus Infection During Pregnancy for Prenatal Care Providers

Maternal HBsAg Results

- Routinely test all women in every pregnancy for hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg)
- Test in the first trimester, if possible
- Test regardless of past testing status

Maternal HBsAg

- Positive
  - Report HBsAg-positive test results to county health department Perinatal Hepatitis B Coordinator, even if positive in the past
  - Provide a copy of lab report indicating woman’s HBsAg status to the hospital where delivery is planned
  - Instruct delivery hospital to place a copy of lab report in infant’s chart
  - Attach alert notice to woman’s medical record to remind delivery hospital that infant needs hep B vaccine and HBIG within 12 hours of birth
  - Notify pediatric provider (if known) of mother’s status

- Negative
  - Start hep B vaccine series if risk factors present
  - Risk Factors:
    - ≥ 2 sex partners in previous 6 months
    - STD
    - Injection drug use
    - HBsAg+ partner
    - Clinical hepatitis
  - Retest for HBsAg prior to delivery, preferably at 28-32 weeks gestation and at least 30 days after most recent vaccine dose regardless of risk factors

Recommended Follow-Up

- Positive
  - Provide woman with a card noting her HBsAg status
  - Refer woman to a medical specialist for evaluation of chronic hepatitis B
  - Educate woman about need to test all contacts (household, sexual, or needle sharing)
  - Educate woman about importance of completing infant’s vaccine series and post-vaccination serology

- Negative
  - Provide a copy of lab report indicating woman’s HBsAg status to hospital where delivery is planned
  - Educate pregnant woman about importance of hep B vaccine birth dose for infant

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERINATAL HEPATITIS B PREVENTION PROGRAM, PLEASE CALL 1-877-888-7468 OR VISIT WWW.IMMUNIZEFLORIDA.ORG OR SEND AN EMAIL TO PHBPP@FLHEALTH.GOV.