



Safe From the Start



Hepatitis B Birth Dose: PROTECT YOUR BABY.

An estimated 800,000 to 1.4 million people in the U.S. are chronically infected with hepatitis B, an infection of the liver that causes life-threatening liver cancer and other conditions. If your baby becomes infected with hepatitis B, symptoms will most likely not show up until their early 20s.

- Mothers can carry hepatitis B without even knowing it, often with no symptoms of infection.
- Infected mothers can infect their children during the birthing process.
- Hepatitis B can become a chronic infection with no cure.

By completing the vaccination series, your baby can develop a lifelong immunity to hepatitis B disease.

Need health insurance for your child?
Apply online at www.floridakidcare.org
or call 1-888-540-5437 for an application.

Fl^orida
KidCare



Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program

Protecting Families and Babies.

For more information about the Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program, contact the Florida Department of Health, Immunization Section at 850-245-4342, visit on the web at www.ImmunizeFlorida.org, or send an email to Florida_PHBPP@FLHealth.gov.



4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A11
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1719
Phone: 850-245-4342
Fax: 850-922-4195
www.ImmunizeFlorida.org



Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program

Protecting Families and Babies.

A Lifetime of Protection Begins
with the Hepatitis B Birth Dose.



Your Child's Health: YOUR FIRST PRIORITY AND OURS.

The first months of your baby's life will be filled with lots of decisions, most of them you have never thought of before. While meeting your baby's food, sleep and other basic needs, you will also make choices that affect your baby's health.

One of the first decisions you will need to make about your baby's health is getting the birth dose of the hepatitis B vaccine.

Given before your baby leaves the hospital, the hepatitis B vaccine can protect your baby from liver disease and other illnesses caused by hepatitis B. Infants are particularly susceptible to hepatitis B because their immune systems are not fully developed. The hepatitis B vaccine is a safe immunization that will provide protection for your baby.



Safe and Necessary: HEPATITIS B VACCINE SAVES LIVES.

Protect your baby from becoming one of the 50,000 people newly infected with hepatitis B each year. The hepatitis B vaccine has been given to more than 50 million infants and young children in the U.S., and has been proven safe and effective at preventing this deadly disease. Minor side effects may occur such as temporary pain at the injection site and mild fevers in less than 10% of children.

A Lifetime of Protection: GETTING ON BOARD IS EASY.

Talk with your doctor about vaccinating your baby against hepatitis B. Your doctor can also begin to build a lifelong, electronic immunization history for your child by storing vaccination records in Florida SHOTS™, the state's secure, online immunization registry.

- The hepatitis B vaccine is administered in a series of three separate injections to protect your child.
- The birth dose is a single injection in your baby's leg that is given before your baby leaves the hospital, followed by shots given at 2- and 6-month well-child visits.
- It is crucial to complete the vaccination series to ensure your baby is protected.

“The hepatitis B birth dose is a proven safe and effective way to protect my child from life-threatening disease. The birth dose is the first step toward a lifetime of good health.”

What to Know BEFORE YOU DELIVER:

Hepatitis B protection lasts a lifetime, but begins with you. Take a moment before your baby arrives to talk to your doctor about the hepatitis B birth dose so you can make an informed decision before your baby's arrival.

- 1 **Hepatitis B is an infectious disease that can cause life-threatening liver cancer.**
- 2 **Hepatitis B can be prevented with a vaccine proven safe and effective.**
- 3 **The hepatitis B birth dose is a single injection given before your baby leaves the hospital. It will be followed by shots given at 2 and 6 months.**

Please complete this form with the delivery hospital and return to your pediatrician at your newborn's first checkup.

Yes, my baby had the hepatitis B birth dose.

No, my baby did not have the hepatitis B birth dose.

PARENT'S NAME: _____

PATIENT'S NAME: _____

PATIENT DATE OF BIRTH: _____

DELIVERY HOSPITAL: _____

DATE OF VACCINATION: _____

DOCTOR'S SIGNATURE: _____
