

Recommended Hepatitis B Vaccination Schedule for Infants and Premature Infants Born to Mothers Whose Hepatitis B Surface Antigen Status is Positive, Unknown, or Negative at the Time of Delivery

Mother's HBsAg Status	HBIG and Hepatitis B Vaccine Schedule*				
	Hepatitis B Immune Globulin	Hepatitis B vaccine #1	Hepatitis B vaccine #2	Hepatitis B vaccine #3	Hepatitis B vaccine #4
Infant born to HBsAg-positive mother	Within 12 hours of birth	Within 12 hours of birth	1-2 months of age	6 months of age [†]	
Infant born to mother whose HBsAg status is unknown [‡]	Within 7 days of birth if mother tests positive	Within 12 hours of birth	1-2 months of age	6 months of age	
Infant born to mothers whose HBsAg status is negative	Not indicated	Soon after birth and before hospital discharge	1- 4 months of age	6 – 18 months of age	
Premature infant weighing <2,000 grams born to HBsAg-positive mother	Within 12 hours of birth	Within 12 hours of birth [§]	1 month of age	2 months of age	6 months of age [†]
Premature infant weighing <2,000 grams whose mother's HBsAg status is unknown [‡]	Within 12 hours of birth ^{**}	Within 12 hours of birth ^{§**}	1 month of age	2 months of age	6 months of age
Premature infant weighing <2,000 grams born to mothers whose HBsAg status is negative	Not indicated	1 month ^{††} of age	2 – 4 months of age	6 – 18 months of age	

*The routine recommended first dose of HepB should be given soon after birth and before hospital discharge; the first dose also may be given by age 2 months if the infant's mother is HBsAg negative. Only monovalent HepB can be used for the birth dose. Monovalent or combination vaccine containing HepB may be used to complete the series. Four doses of vaccine may be administered when a birth dose is given. The second dose should be given at least 4 weeks after the first dose except for combination vaccines, which cannot be administered before age 6 weeks. The third dose should be given at least 16 weeks after the first dose and at least 8 weeks after the second dose. The last dose in the vaccination series (third or fourth dose) should not be administered before age 24 weeks.

[†] Test infants who have completed the hepatitis B series at age 6–8 months for HBsAg and anti-HBs at 9–15 months of age to monitor the success of therapy. If the series is completed at an older age due to the use of Comvax or due to a delayed schedule, the optimal testing time is 1–2 months after the final dose of hepatitis B vaccine. Every effort should be made to ensure that infants of HBsAg-positive mothers are vaccinated on schedule and then tested for immunity.

[‡] Mother should have blood drawn for stat HBsAg testing.

[§] This initial HepB dose should not be counted towards completion of the HepB series and three additional doses of HepB should be administered beginning when the infant is age 1 month.

^{**} Premature infants weighing less than 2,000 grams at birth who are born to mothers with unknown HBsAg status must receive immunoprophylaxis with hepatitis B vaccine and HBIG ≤12 hours after birth unless mothers' HBsAg test result is available in <12 hours.

^{††} The optimal timing of the first dose of HepB for premature infants of HBsAg-negative mothers with a birth weight of <2,000 grams has not been determined. However, these infants can receive the first dose of the HepB series at chronological age 1 month. Premature infants discharged from the hospital before chronological age 1 month can also be administered HepB at discharge, if they are medically stable and have gained weight consistently.

Table adapted from: Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices - Vaccine for Children Program Resolution No. 10/03-2

CDC. Hepatitis B Virus: A Comprehensive Strategy for Eliminating Transmission in the United States Through Universal Childhood Vaccination: Recommendations of the ACIP APPENDIX A: Postexposure Prophylaxis for Hepatitis B. MMWR Recommendations and Reports, Nov 22, 1991, Vol. 40, No. RR-13, 21-25. www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00033455.htm

CDC. General Recommendations on Immunization. Special Situations: "Vaccination of Premature Infants". MMWR Recommendations and Reports, Feb 8, 2002, Vol. 51, No. RR-2, 18. www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5102a1.htm

Recommended Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedule, United States, July – December 2004.