

How do I know if I have hepatitis B during this pregnancy?

You should get two blood tests for hepatitis B during each pregnancy.



Your first test should be done at your initial appointment with your health care provider.



Your second test should be done when you deliver your baby at the hospital or birthing facility.

If you test positive during pregnancy, your sexual contacts and household members should also be tested.



Is there a cure for hepatitis B?

No, there is no cure. If you have hepatitis B, ask your health care provider about treatment options.

However, you can prevent passing it to your baby by making sure your baby gets the hepatitis B vaccine and hepatitis B immune globulin (HBIG) within 12 hours of birth and completes the hepatitis B vaccine series.



For more information regarding perinatal hepatitis B, contact your provider, local health department or the Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program:

Texas Department of State Health Services
Immunization Section
Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program
Mail Code 1946
P.O. Box 149347
Austin, Texas 78714-9347

**[dshs.texas.gov/immunizations/
what-we-do/vaccines/hepatitis-b](https://dshs.texas.gov/immunizations/what-we-do/vaccines/hepatitis-b)**
512-776-6035
TxPeriHepB@dshs.texas.gov



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

**Texas Department of State
Health Services**

Texas Department of State Health Services
Immunization Section
Stock No. 11-11444 Rev. 10/2025

Perinatal Hepatitis B

**Hepatitis B vaccine can
save your baby's life**



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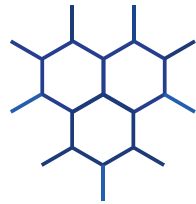


What is hepatitis B?

A contagious infection of the liver caused by a virus that can cause liver inflammation and liver disease. This can lead to cancer and possibly death.

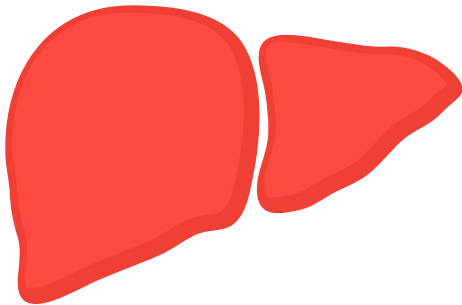
How does it spread?

Hepatitis B virus is spread by contact with blood or body fluids from an infected person.



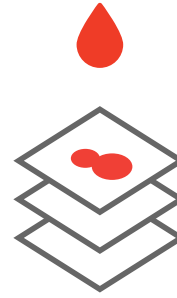
You can get hepatitis B by:

- Having unprotected sex
- Transmission from an infected mother to her baby during childbirth
- Sharing needles and syringes
- Having contact with blood or open sores
- Sharing razors, toothbrushes, or washcloths
- Using unsterilized needles in body piercing and tattooing



How can your baby get hepatitis B?

- Contact with your blood and body fluids during birth
- Contact with an infected household member's body fluids
- Contact with blood and body fluids through breaks in the skin such as bites, cuts, or sores
- Contact with objects that could have blood or body fluids on them, such as toothbrushes or washcloths



Hepatitis B is not spread by:

- Sneezing or coughing
- Kissing or hugging
- Breastfeeding
- Eating food or drinking water
- Sharing eating utensils or drinking glasses



If you have hepatitis B, how can you prevent passing it to your baby?

- Be sure to tell the health care providers at the hospital or birthing facility where you deliver your baby that you have hepatitis B
- Make sure your baby receives the first dose of hepatitis B vaccine and a medication called hepatitis B immune globulin (HBIG) immediately after birth
- Make sure your baby completes the hepatitis B vaccine series on time
- Once your baby has completed the vaccine series, make sure the pediatrician does a blood test at least three months after completing the hepatitis B vaccine series to make sure the vaccine worked

Time	Infant born to mother with hepatitis B should receive:
During Birth	Birth dose of hepatitis B vaccine and HBIG
One month	Second dose of hepatitis B vaccine
Six months	Third dose of hepatitis B vaccine
Nine months	Blood test to make sure the vaccine worked

➤ **Hepatitis B vaccine is safe for your baby. All babies should complete the vaccine series to protect them for life.**