

WHAT YOU **NEED** TO KNOW

# Newborn Hepatitis B Vaccine

**Hepatitis B is a contagious virus that can lead to liver disease, liver cancer or even death.**

Upwards of 2 million people in the US are chronically infected with the hepatitis B virus.

**It can be transmitted:**



**From mother to baby** during pregnancy



**After birth, through casual contact** with others carrying the virus



## The hepatitis B vaccine:



Is given to newborns in the hospital within 24 hours of birth



Has been the standard of care since 1991



Reduces childhood transmission and potential long-term complications



## Why is it given at birth?



**2/3 of infections** occur after a pregnant woman has initially tested negative



**About 50% of people** with hepatitis B don't know they are infected



**It provides protection** for infants before they can be exposed

**Choosing to vaccinate your baby at birth ensures protection from day one.**

Ask your healthcare provider to learn more.

NATIONAL COALITION for **Infant Health**



Sources:

CDC (2024); Hepatitis B Foundation (2025); Immunization Action Coalition (2013)

