

# HEPATITIS B INFORMATION FOR HBsAg POSITIVE MOTHERS

## PATIENT IDENTIFICATION

Your baby received hepatitis B immune globulin (HBIG) and hepatitis B vaccine. Here are a few important facts about hepatitis B.

### HEPATITIS B VIRUS TRANSMISSION:

- Hepatitis B is a virus spread through contact with blood or other body fluids from an infected person. People can also be infected from contact with a contaminated object such as a needle.
- Women infected with this virus can pass it on to their baby during birth. This can be prevented by giving the baby HBIG and hepatitis B vaccine soon after birth.
- Children, adolescents, and adults can become infected by:
  - Contact with blood and body fluids through breaks in the skin such as bites, cuts, or sores
  - Contact with objects that contain blood or body fluids on them such as toothbrushes or razors
  - Having unprotected sex with a person who has hepatitis B
  - Sharing needles with a person who has hepatitis B
  - Being stuck with a used needle



### BREAST FEEDING:

If your baby received the HBIG and hepatitis B vaccines shortly after birth, there is very little risk of giving the virus to your baby when breast feeding. If there is no other medical reason why you can't breast feed, you can do so without delay.

### IMMUNIZATIONS:

- Take your baby's immunization record to every doctor's appointment.
- It's important that your baby receive 2 or 3 additional hepatitis B immunizations over the next several months to prevent the disease.
- Your baby will need special testing after completion of the vaccine series at age 9-18 months to make sure they're protected from the disease.
- Household and close contacts including sexual partners and needle-sharing contacts will also need to be tested for hepatitis B. If they are not protected against the virus, they should get vaccinated.

### MEDICAL EVALUATION:

- You may benefit from treatment for hepatitis B. Contact your regular doctor for a referral to a liver specialist for a physical exam.
- To ensure proper follow-up for your baby, please call the Los Angeles County Immunization Program at (213) 351-7400 within one week of discharge.

**PATIENT SIGNATURE: I have read and understood the information contained in this form.**

**DATE**

**TIME**

**SIGNATURE**

**DATE**

**TIME**

**R.N.**