DHHS Immunization Program – Perinatal Hepatitis B Program

Hepatitis B virus is a viral infection of the liver. It is spread by exposure to infected blood and body fluids. Most people do not become acutely ill with the virus, and children under the age of 10 are usually without symptoms. The younger a person is when infected, the greater the chance of becoming a chronic carrier. About 90% of untreated infants exposed will become carriers, contrasted to 5-10% of adults. 25% of chronically infected people die prematurely of cirrhosis or liver cancer.

**Becoming a Hepatitis B Birth Dose Provider**

Hospitals can receive Hepatitis B vaccine at no cost to assist them in providing the birth dose to all newborns in their care regardless of insurance status.

To participate in this program, hospitals have to ensure proper storage and handling of the vaccine, submit appropriate paperwork, and use NESIIS (Nebraska State Immunization Information System) for inventory monitoring, reporting and ordering.

For more information about becoming a Hepatitis B Birth Dose Provider, please contact the Nebraska Immunization Program.

**Program Contact Information**

Immunization Program  
PO Box 95026  
Lincoln NE, 68509-5026  
Phone: 402-471-6423  
Fax: 402-471-6426

DHHS.Immunization@nebraska.gov