

- Sharing razors or toothbrushes; getting tattoos or body piercing with unclean needles, or sharing needles used by someone who has hepatitis B. Just a **tiny** bit of their blood can pass it on.
- Having sexual contact with someone who has hepatitis B.

You did **not** get it from food or water.

How do I protect my loved ones?

Your husband or sexual partner, your other children, and others living with you need a hepatitis B blood test and/or hepatitis B vaccine. The test will show if they already have hepatitis B or if they still could catch it, and need the hepatitis B shots, too.

If they are at risk, they need the series of hepatitis B shots. They need the first shot right away.

How do I protect my baby?

Like all babies, your baby needs regular check-ups and childhood vaccines. Make very sure your baby gets each of the Hep B shots on time. **Your baby's shots must not be late.**

How do I protect others?

- Never share your toothbrush, razor, needles or any item that could have your blood on it.
- Tell your sex partners that you have hepatitis B. Use condoms during sexual intercourse until your partner has been tested, and vaccinated if needed.
- Clean up any spills of your blood, vomit or other body fluids with a freshly made solution of water and bleach (1 table-spoon bleach to a quart of water.)
- Bandage your cuts or open sores. Throw away your personal items (such as tissues, menstrual pads and tampons in a closed plastic bag). Wash your hands after touching your blood or body fluids.
- Always tell your doctor, clinic or dentist that you are hepatitis B positive.
- Always tell your baby's doctor that you are hepatitis B positive.



Ohio Department of Health

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 Bureau of Public Health Labs
 Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention
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HEPATITIS B & PREGNANCY



What if you are

pregnant and your

hepatitis B test

is positive?

Here's how you can

protect your baby and

your loved ones

Your new baby will need 4 special shots.

BIRTH

2 shots will be given before your baby is 12 hours old. The shots are called Hepatitis B vaccine and Hepatitis B Immune Globulin (HBIG).



**1
MONTH**

Another shot of Hepatitis B vaccine is needed when your baby is one month old.

**6
MONTHS**

The final shot a Hepatitis B vaccine will be needed when your baby is six months old.

Without all four shots your baby could get very sick. Get each shot on time. If you get them late, your baby might not be protected. After the final shot your doctor should do a blood test to make sure your baby is protected.

Protect your loved ones and take care of yourself.

Your loved ones can catch hepatitis B from you. They need hepatitis B tests and shots to protect them. Hepatitis B virus is in your blood. Read on the back of this pamphlet "How do I protect my loved ones?" and "How do I protect others?"

You can have hepatitis B and feel fine. Or you may feel sick and weak. Many people get well in a few months. Others carry the virus for life and can pass it on to others. Only a blood test can tell you this.

Visit the doctor once a year. This is very important because you could develop serious liver disease. Ask your doctor to explain how drinking alcohol and taking medicines could hurt your liver.

How did I get hepatitis B?

Anyone can get hepatitis B. You may have had it since birth or just been infected recently. You may have no symptoms or you may feel weak, tired and sick. Here's how you could have gotten hepatitis B:



- If your mother had hepatitis B when you were born. (Today a blood test is available for pregnant women, but it wasn't when you were born.) Hepatitis B is very common in people who are from Asia, the Pacific Islands, Alaska and parts of Africa.
- Living with someone who has hepatitis B.