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Obtaining Support: Helpful Contacts

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Can Help Implement the Hepatitis B Birth Dose**
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Your State or Local Perinatal Hepatitis B Coordinator Can Help Implement the Hepatitis B Birth Dose

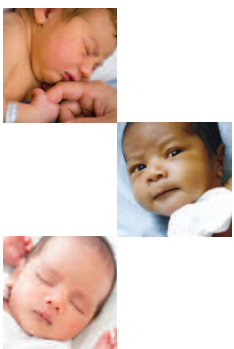
Every state, territory, and some large city health departments have a perinatal hepatitis B coordinator. This coordinator works with birthing hospitals and healthcare providers to help ensure all newborns are protected against hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection.

Perinatal hepatitis B coordinators can assist hospitals in numerous ways. Your coordinator can

- help you develop model standing orders and policies to assist with implementation or continuation of universal hepatitis B vaccine birth dose practices,
- assist your facility in learning about the VFC program and determining if your facility could receive hepatitis B vaccine at no cost for eligible children,

- facilitate case management of babies born to HBsAg-positive women to help ensure that babies receive the CDC-recommended follow-up medical care, and
- answer any questions you have about implementing or enhancing your hospital's hepatitis B prevention policies to protect newborns.

State and large city coordinators' names and phone numbers can be found on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/hepb/perinatal-contacts.htm.



How the Vaccines For Children (VFC) Program Can Help Your Hospital

Vaccines For Children (VFC) is a federal entitlement program that provides vaccines at no cost to eligible children. To qualify for VFC, children must be 18 years of age or younger and meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Medicaid-eligible (or covered)
 - American Indian or Alaska Native
 - Uninsured
 - Underinsured (i.e., has insurance but it does not cover the cost of vaccine) and receiving services at a federally qualified health center or rural health clinic
- The VFC program helps hospitals by providing vaccines at no cost for their

VFC-eligible patients. Hepatitis B vaccine for newborns is covered under the VFC program along with all routinely recommended vaccines for children and teens.

There is no charge for a hospital to become a VFC provider.

All states, territories, and the District of Columbia have VFC coordinators who can answer questions about enrolling in the program. To find contact information for your area's VFC coordinator, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/vfc/contacts-state.html.



Hepatitis B:

What Hospitals Need to Do to Protect Newborns