

Section: Division of Nursing

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**PROCEDURE**

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HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

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**NEWBORN SERVICES**

(Scope)

**TITLE: PREVENTION OF HEPATITIS IN NEWBORNS**

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PURPOSE: 1. To accurately identify newborn risk factors for Hepatitis B transmission.  
2. To define nursing responsibilities and care within the Childbirth Family Center to decrease newborn risk factors.

SUPPORTIVE DATA: 1. Hepatitis B vaccine may be given to the newborn only if the mother signs the informed consent, regardless of risk factors.  
2. The Hackettstown Regional Medical Center Department of Pediatrics has standing orders for the prevention of Hepatitis B.

EQUIPMENT LIST: 1. Signed consent for Hepatitis B Vaccine administration.  
2. Neonatal dosage of Hepatitis B vaccine.  
3. Alcohol prep pads.  
4. If indicated, H-Big vaccine in neonatal dosage.  
5. Set of newborn admission orders.  
6. Syringe (TB)

CONTENT: Procedure Steps: Key Points:

**A. Pre-birth Care Planning: Upon maternal admission to the Childbirth Family Center.**

1. Identify maternal Hepatitis B status.
2. If maternal Hepatitis B status is positive (either HbsAg positive or HbcAg positive), the parents should be informed that the newborn should receive both the Hepatitis B vaccine and a neonatal dose of H-Big vaccine within 12 hours of birth and as soon as possible.
  - a. No consent is needed for H- BIG.
  - b. Standing order on all newborn admission orders for this.
3. Explain informed consent for Hepatitis B vaccine administration to parents, allow them time to read the informed consent as they desire.
4. Obtain written consent by having the mother sign her name on the first line for parental signature at the lower right had side of the form.
5. If mother/parents decline to give consent, notify the attending pediatrician at the time the newborn is being examined by the attending pediatrician for the first time.

6. If maternal Hepatitis B status is unknown, ie no prenatal care, or no way to obtain accurate prenatal information from the prenatal care provider within 12 hours of the newborn's birth, the parent(s) should be informed that the newborn should receive both the Hepatitis B vaccine and the H-Big vaccine.
7. If maternal Hepatitis B status is not documented on the prenatal record available, and/or no prenatal record available, **BUT** maternal Hepatitis B status can be accurately discovered (by phone, fax, etc.) within 12 hours of newborn's birth, notify the attending pediatrician so that an order to hold the order to give H-Big until maternal Hepatitis B status is determined is obtained.
  - a. Mother may not initiate breast-feeding until her Hepatitis B status is known.
8. If maternal Hepatitis B status is positive and mother decides to breast-feed newborn after all risks have been explained to her, have her consult with her pediatrician.

**B. Hepatitis B vaccine administration and H-BIG, as needed.**

1. Site Selection:
  - a. For all newborn injection of medication(s), use thigh(s).
  - b. If newborn is to receive both vaccines, use alternate thighs. The vitamin K injection may go into either thigh as the second injection.
2. Check syringes for appropriate dose, note vaccine manufacturer and vaccine lot number.
  - a. On Hepatitis B consent form for Hepatitis B vaccine.
3. Hold newborns leg and thigh firmly in one hand.
4. Cleanse injection site with alcohol-swab.
5. Inject vaccine.
6. Apply pressure to injection site as needed to stop any bleeding.
7. Repeat # 3-6 for 2nd vaccine, if indicated (H-BIG) in opposite thigh.

Upon birth of baby, scan newborn orders to pharmacy for profiling in pyxis. Enter medication orders in Cerner computer system.  
Utilize C5 to scan infants ID barcode and scan medication prior to administration. Electronically sign for medication administration in C5 for electronic MAR.

**C. Documentation of vaccines administered**

1. Hepatitis B vaccine administration is recorded on the Hepatitis B consent form within the part headed "Vaccine Administration Record" on the same line as the mothers signature.
  - a. Write legibly. The parents will receive a copy upon newborn's discharge home. This copy will be for their newborn's pediatric care provider's use and records.

Include Lot number of Vaccine.

- b. Document information as headings on form indicate. Date of birth, date given, time given, age may be filled in as "newborn", and manufacturer/vaccine information already noted earlier (lot#).