

GPA E-Newsletter November 2017

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November 2017 E-Newsletter

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E-NEWS

Board of Directors

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Committee

Dina Herren

Perinatal Hepatitis B Vaccine

In the fall of 2017, the American Academy of Pediatrics released a new policy statement with recommendations for the Hepatitis B vaccine to be given within the first 24 hours after birth. This policy now aligns with the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) at the CDC. The birth dose can prevent infection of infants born to infected mothers in situations in which the mother's results are never obtained, misinterpreted, falsely negative, or reported to the infant care team inaccurately. A dose of vaccine given within the first 24 hours of life is 75-95% effective in

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preventing perinatal transmission of Hepatitis B.

About a thousand infants a year still contract perinatal Hepatitis B every year. There has been an increase in hepatitis B infections due to the opioid epidemic in the United States. Chronic liver disease will affect 90% of infants who contract Hepatitis b and 22% will die from cirrhosis or liver cancer.

All infants that weigh at least 2000 grams (4.4 pounds) should receive the vaccine within 24 hours of birth.

Infants 2000 grams in weight born to mothers that test positive for Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAG) should get the hepatitis B vaccine within 12 hours of birth and get HBIG within 12 hours of birth

Infants born less than 2000 grams and born to Hepatitis B negative mothers should get the hepatitis B vaccine at one month of age OR at discharge whichever comes first.

Infants born with birth weight of at least 2000 grams and maternal (HBsAG) status is unknown, the Hepatitis B vaccine should be given within 12 hours of birth. HBIG should be given by hospital discharge or day 7 whichever comes first if maternal HBsAG remains unknown or confirmed positive

Infants born with birth weight of less than 2000 grams and maternal HBsAG unknown, the Hepatitis B vaccine should be given within 12 hours of birth and then HBIG within 12 hours of birth unless the mother tests negative for HBsAG by 12 hours of life.

(Pediatrics. 2017 Aug 28. Doi: 10.1542/peds.2017-1870)

[31416](#)

(912) 495-8266
Monday - Friday
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

SAVE THE DATE

32nd Annual GPA
Conference
Sep 19-21,2018
King & Prince
Resort
St Simons Island

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