



## PERINATAL HEPATITIS B SCREENING (PERINATAL HEP B)

**Coordinator/Data Contact:**

Julie Miracle, RN  
Kentucky Department for Public Health  
Division of Epidemiology and Health Planning  
Immunization Program  
[julie.miracle@ky.gov](mailto:julie.miracle@ky.gov)  
(502) 564-4478 ex. 4260

### Sources of Information for the Database

System data is based upon identifying information and demographics collected by local health departments and private providers on any prenatal patient who has a positive hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) screening test. The data also includes the Estimated Date of Confinement (EDC), name of hospital, name of local health department and contact nurse, the private provider's name, maternal and infant insurance status and the outcome of the pregnancy. Kentucky State Law and Kentucky Regulation 902 mandates that all pregnant women must be screened for hepatitis B surface antigen testing. KAR 2:020 requires reporting of all HBsAg positive pregnant women to local health departments (LHD) or the state perinatal hepatitis B coordinator. The surveillance system is fully funded through the federal immunization grant.

### Description of the Data Collected

Reports of positive HBsAg tests on all prenatal patients are forwarded from the state laboratory or from the local health department to the Department for Public Health, Division of Epidemiology and Health Planning. The Immunization Program then obtains the demographic and clinical information from the local health department and enters the patient in a restricted access registry. When the infant is born, the health department reports dates of hepatitis B immune globulin (HBIG) and hepatitis B vaccine series receipt and date and the result of post serology testing including surface antibody and surface antigen testing for hepatitis B virus.

The Kentucky Immunization field staff follows up monthly for missing reports. Line listings with the above information are forwarded to the Division of Epidemiology and Health Planning, Immunization Program where prevalence of HBsAg, follow-up rates and efficacy of the prevention regimen are calculated. Summary information is disseminated by the Immunization Program, Division of Epidemiology and Health Planning to local health departments, immunization field staff and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

### Strengths of the Data

The information provides surveillance and monitoring of known cases of children born to hepatitis B positive mothers.

### Specific Uses of Information

- Monitor the prevalence of hepatitis B in the population of delivering mothers who use health department services and private doctors
- Track changes in the overall epidemiologic characteristics of hepatitis B
- Assure that infants at risk of perinatal transmission receive hepatitis B immune globulin and vaccine to prevent disease
- Monitor for vaccine failures in infants of hepatitis B positive mothers who receive the preventive regimen

#### Data Limitations

Information is limited to what is provided by local health departments, primary care physicians and birthing hospitals and who can access the data. A web database is currently under development.

### System Evaluation

The system is evaluated annually by way of a report submitted to the CDC. The report enumerates the number of births to HBsAg positive mothers, vaccination completion rates and post-vaccination testing rates.

### Data Set Availability

Data is submitted on EPID-394, 395 and 399 forms by mail or fax to the state coordinator. The coordinator enters the data to a restricted access registry. A web-based registry is currently being developed. LHDs contact the providers for the information and forward to the state coordinator. Kentucky has a three year average of 71 infants born to HBsAg positive mothers. CDC estimated that in 2011, Kentucky could have between 92 to 156 infants born to HBsAg positive mothers. Costs incurred include those required for upkeep of the dataset as well as for various clerical responsibilities.

### Data Release Policy

The current registry is a restricted only access database housed on a server in Frankfort. Kentucky follows the integrated security and confidentially guidelines for HIV, STD, viral hepatitis and TB surveillance programs mandated by the CDC.

### Data Publications

The data are released to the CDC for publication in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR). Also the Department for Health and Human Services uses this data for its viral hepatitis program.

### Suggested Data Citation

Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH). *Perinatal Hepatitis B Screening Data*. Frankfort, Kentucky: Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Kentucky Department for Public Health, [data year].

### Contributing Author

Julie Miracle, RN, Kentucky Department for Public Health