

# HEPATITIS B SCREENING IS NOW MORE WIDELY RECOMMENDED AND REIMBURSED

As many as 60% to 70% of persons in the United States with chronic hepatitis B are undiagnosed and up to 60% are asymptomatic<sup>1,2</sup>

See the following pages for a list of



WHO to test



WHAT tests to order



HOW to interpret the test results



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# WHO TO TEST

## PERSONS AT HIGH RISK FOR HBV INFECTION SHOULD NOW BE SCREENED<sup>3</sup>

- The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF)\* now recommends screening asymptomatic, nonpregnant adolescents and adults at high risk for HBV infection (Grade B recommendation)<sup>3</sup>
  - Includes those at high risk who were vaccinated before being screened for HBV infection
- Screening for HBV infection in pregnant women at their first prenatal visit continues to be recommended (Grade A recommendation)<sup>4†</sup>
- Under the Affordable Care Act, preventive services rated Grade A or B by the USPSTF must be covered with no patient cost-sharing by
  - Most private insurers and many Medicaid programs<sup>5</sup>
  - Medicare programs that cover these services<sup>6</sup>

\*No reference to USPSTF implies its endorsement of Gilead Sciences. USPSTF's recommendations, although published for the Task Force by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, are independent of the US Government.

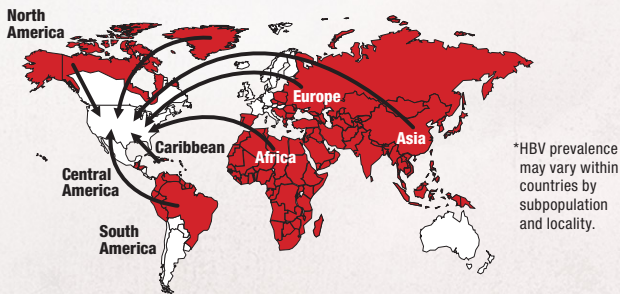
†Regardless of previous hepatitis B vaccination or previous negative test results.<sup>4</sup>

## SCREEN THESE HIGH-RISK PERSONS FOR HBV INFECTION<sup>3</sup>

- Persons born in regions with a high prevalence of HBV infection ( $\geq 2\%$ )
- US-born persons not vaccinated as infants whose parents were born in regions with a very high prevalence of HBV infection ( $\geq 8\%$ ), such as sub-Saharan Africa and Southeast and Central Asia
- HIV-positive persons
- Injection drug users
- Men who have sex with men
- Household contacts or sexual partners of persons with HBV infection

## SCREEN PERSONS FROM THESE HIGH-RISK REGIONS FOR HBV INFECTION<sup>3</sup>

Regions in red represent  $\geq 2\%$  HBV prevalence\*



Adapted from: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Morb Mortal Wkly Rep.* 2008.<sup>7</sup>

For more information on countries and regions with a high prevalence of HBV infection, visit [www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5708a1.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5708a1.htm)



# WHAT TESTS TO ORDER

A SIMPLE BLOOD TEST TO DETECT HBV IS  
A CRUCIAL FIRST STEP<sup>8</sup>

Order these 3 tests to detect HBV infection  
and assess immunity to HBV



Hepatitis B surface antigen, **HBsAg**



Hepatitis B surface antibody, **anti-HBs**



Hepatitis B core antibody, **anti-HBc\***

The image shows a medical test order form with a red arrow pointing to the section for Hepatitis B tests. The form includes a list of tests and their corresponding codes. The tests listed are:

Test Name	Code
HBsAg	2734
anti-HBs	2735
anti-HBc	2736

To ensure reimbursement eligibility, confirm with patient's  
insurance coverage.

\*Anti-HBc refers to Total Anti-HBc.



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# HOW TO INTERPRET THE TEST RESULTS

## USE THIS GUIDE TO INTERPRET HBV SEROLOGY MARKERS

### Interpreting HBV Serology: Test Results and Recommended Follow-up

	Possible Test Results			
HBsAg <sup>9</sup>	+	-	-	-
Anti-HBs <sup>9</sup>	-	+	+	-
Anti-HBc <sup>9*</sup>	+	+	-	-

Interpretation <sup>9</sup>	Acute or chronic infection <sup>†</sup>	Immune: resolved infection	Immune: by vaccination	Susceptible to HBV
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Action	Contact patient for evaluation and further testing	Follow up as appropriate <sup>‡§</sup>	None required	Vaccinate
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\*Anti-HBc refers to Total Anti-HBc.

<sup>†</sup>Patient is chronically infected if HBsAg+ for ≥6 months.

<sup>‡</sup>Patients who are anti-HBc–positive should be monitored closely during and after the administration of cytotoxic chemotherapy for signs of HBV reactivation.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>§</sup>Patients with cirrhosis may need to be monitored for hepatocellular carcinoma per the AASLD guidelines.<sup>11</sup>

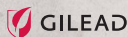
# SCREENING OF PERSONS AT HIGH RISK FOR HBV INFECTION IS A PUBLIC HEALTH IMPERATIVE<sup>5</sup>

**Chronic hepatitis B is a common cause of death associated with liver failure, cirrhosis, and liver cancer<sup>7,10</sup>**

- **Screening can identify chronic HBV early, so that antiviral therapy can be prescribed before symptoms and complications develop<sup>5</sup>**
- **Screening allows interventions to be implemented, which may help prevent the risk of transmission<sup>5</sup>**

**Screen for HBV today.** Now it's more widely recommended and reimbursed<sup>3,5,6</sup>

**References:** 1. Cohen C, Holmberg SD, McMahon BJ, et al. Is chronic hepatitis B being undertreated in the United States? [published online ahead of print December 8, 2010]. *J Viral Hepat.* 2011;18(6):377-383. doi:10.1111/j.1365-2893.2010.014101.x. 2. Kowdley KV, Wang CC, Welch S, Roberts H, Brosgart CL. Prevalence of chronic hepatitis B among foreign-born persons living in the United States by country of origin. *Hepatology.* 2012;56(2):419-421. 3. LeFevre ML; U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. Screening for hepatitis B virus infection in nonpregnant adolescents and adults: U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommendation statement. *Ann Intern Med.* 2014;161(1):58-66. doi:10.7326/M14-1018. 4. U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. Screening for hepatitis B virus infection in pregnancy: U.S. Preventive Services Task Force reaffirmation recommendation statement. *Ann Intern Med.* 2009;150(12):869-873. 5. Rajbhandari R, Chung RT. Screening for hepatitis B virus infection: a public health imperative [editorial]. *Ann Intern Med.* 2014;161(1):76-77. doi:10.7326/M14-1153. 6. CDC Web site. Viral hepatitis preventive services. <http://www.cdc.gov/nchhstp/PreventionThroughHealthCare/PreventiveServices/Hepatitis.htm>. Accessed November 6, 2014. 7. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Recommendations for identification and public health management of persons with chronic hepatitis B virus infection. *Morb Mortal Wkly Rep.* 2008;57(RR-8):1-20. 8. Weinbaum CM, Mast EE, Ward JW. Recommendations for identification and public health management of persons with chronic hepatitis B virus infection. *Hepatology.* 2009;49(5)(suppl):S35-S44. 9. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Testing and public health management of persons with chronic hepatitis B virus infection. CDC Web site. <http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/HBV/TestingChronic.htm>. Accessed November 5, 2014. 10. Keefe EB, Dieterich DT, Han SH, et al. A treatment algorithm for the management of chronic hepatitis B virus infection in the United States: 2008 update. *Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol.* 2008;6(12):1315-1341. 11. Bruix J, Sherman M; American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases. AASLD Practice Guideline: Management of hepatocellular carcinoma: an update. *Hepatology.* 2011;53. [http://www.aasld.org/sites/default/files/guideline\\_documents/HCCUpdate2010.pdf](http://www.aasld.org/sites/default/files/guideline_documents/HCCUpdate2010.pdf). Accessed December 19, 2014.



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