Hepatitis B Vaccine Information Statement

About Hepatitis B Vaccine Information Statements

1 What is Hepatitis B?

Hepatitis B is a serious infection that affects the liver. It is caused by the hepatitis B virus.

- It is spread through contact with infected body fluids.
- It can be prevented by vaccination.

2 Hepatitis B Vaccine: Why Get Vaccinated?

Hepatitis B vaccine can prevent hepatitis B, and the serious consequences of hepatitis B infection, including liver cancer and cirrhosis.

Hepatitis B vaccine may be given by itself or in the same shot with other vaccines.

3 Who Should Get Hepatitis B Vaccine and When?

- Infants usually get doses of hepatitis B vaccine:
  - 1st dose at birth
  - 2nd dose at 1-2 months of age
  - 3rd dose between 6-18 months of age

- Infants born to mothers with hepatitis B infection should be vaccinated. Other pregnant women who want protection may be vaccinated.

4 Who Should Not Get Hepatitis B Vaccine?

- Anyone with a life-threatening allergic reaction to any of the vaccine ingredients.
- Anyone who is pregnant.
- Anyone who is not immune to hepatitis B.

5 What Are the Risks from Hepatitis B Vaccine?

- Hepatitis B vaccine is safe. The risks are no worse than any other vaccine.
- Some side effects can occur:
  - Fever
  - Swelling

6 What if There Is a Moderate or Severe Reaction?

- Call a doctor or leave a doctor's office if you think you have a severe reaction.
- Follow your doctor's advice.

7 The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program

- Visit the website or call 1-800-338-2382 for more information.

8 How Can I Learn More?

- Visit the website or call 1-888-357-9300 for more information.
- Visit the website or call 1-800-CDC-INFO for more information.

For more information about how to use VISs, visit www.immunize.org/vis.

For hepatitis B VISs in many languages, visit www.immunize.org/vis/vis_hepatitis_b.asp.