

## **December 5, 2025**

"AMGA Immunizations Brief"—brought to you by the Rise to Immunize® (RIZE) campaign—delivers vaccine news and updates relevant to healthcare leaders. This brief provides concise, actionable information to help you stay informed and guide patient care in an evolving immunization landscape.

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## At a Glance

- The CDC's ACIP voted to overturn decades-long policy on hepatitis B vaccine for infants.
- Vaccine Integrity Project's independent evidence review found the hepatitis B vaccine birth dose safe, highly effective, and foundational to declining hepatitis B virus infections in U.S. children.
- HHS weighs major changes to Vaccine Injury Compensation Program.

## **Detailed Brief**

The CDC's ACIP <u>voted</u> to overturn decades-long policy on hepatitis B vaccine for infants.

- The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted 8-3 to recommend hepatitis B at birth only for infants born to women who test positive for the virus that attacks the liver. Women whose hepatitis B status is negative or unknown should talk with their doctors about vaccination, according to the recommendation.
- The result, if approved by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) acting
  director, will be a rollback of a universal recommendation to start hepatitis B immunization at
  birth, a standard practice in the U.S. for more than 30 years that has been credited with
  dramatically lowering liver diseases caused by the virus.

Vaccine Integrity Project's (VIP's) <u>independent evidence review</u> found the hepatitis B vaccine birth dose safe, highly effective, and foundational to declining hepatitis B virus infections in U.S. children.

- This review of published, peer-reviewed evidence included more than 400 studies and reports, covering 40 years.
- The totality of evidence—epidemiologic, clinical, and operational—supports maintaining universal hepatitis B vaccination within 24 hours of birth for all medically stable infants.
- Delaying the first dose reduces protection for infants and increases the risk of avoidable hepatitis B virus infections, undermining decades of progress in hepatitis B prevention and U.S. efforts to eliminate viral hepatitis as a public health threat.

## HHS weighs <u>major changes</u> to Vaccine Injury Compensation Program.

A senior adviser to Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has
proposed expanding the conditions that the program considers vaccine injuries to include some
cases of severe autism.

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