

Why Prioritize the Hepatitis B Vaccine?

Myth vs. Fact

In 2022, the ACIP moved from a risk-based to routine age-based recommendation for hepatitis B.



- X** *The clinical burden of hepatitis B is low.*
- ✓** **Hepatitis B can lead to liver diseases such as liver cancer, which is one of the deadliest cancers in the United States.**
- X** *Most adults are up to date on their hepatitis B vaccination.*
- ✓** **Approximately 70% of adults aged 19+ have not received a hepatitis B vaccination series.**
- X** *The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendation for hepatitis B vaccination **in adults is entirely risk based.***
- ✓** **As of 2022, the ACIP recommends the hepatitis B vaccination for all adults aged 19–59 years and those 60 years and older with risk factors. Hepatitis B vaccination may also be considered for those 60+ without known risk factors.**
- X** *Healthcare professionals can easily identify the patients who are most at risk for hepatitis B.*
- ✓** **It can be difficult to predict who may contract hepatitis B. In 2022, 73% of acute hepatitis B cases occurred in people with no risk factors identified.**
- X** *There is little financial incentive to improve hepatitis B vaccination rates.*
- ✓** **As of 2025, hepatitis B vaccine series completion for patients 19+ is a quality measure component of the Adult Immunization Status (AIS-E) measure. The AIS-E measure is one of many HEDIS measures used to evaluate performance-based reimbursement.**

Did You Know?



- The hepatitis B vaccine is one of only two currently approved vaccines that can **help prevent cancer**. (The other protects against HPV-related cancers.)
- For adult patients, the hepatitis B vaccine is **available in two formulations**: a two-dose series completed in one month or a three-dose series completed in six months.
- Hepatitis B vaccine **series completion is critical** to help ensure protective immunity. Once the series is complete, most patients do not need to get vaccinated for hepatitis B again.

Take Action!



- **Educate your eligible patients** about the hepatitis B vaccine and make a strong recommendation to vaccinate.
- **Establish a hepatitis B vaccine implementation plan** and share across care teams and other relevant colleagues (e.g., EHR review committees, IT professionals).
- **Report your organization's performance on the hepatitis B vaccine** as part of your participation in AMGA's Rise to Immunize[®] campaign. For more information, contact RiseToImmunize@amga.org.

