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Denver Health Reaffirms Newborn Hepatitis B Vaccination

DENVER (Dec. 5, 2025) —Denver Health is responding to today's vote by The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) against recommending universal newborn hepatitis B vaccination. Before two months of age, the ACIP now encourages shared decision making for infants born to hepatitis B negative mothers.

Hepatitis B is a serious, highly contagious virus that can cause lifelong illness, liver failure and cancer. Newborns face the greatest risk and up to 90 percent of infants infected at birth will develop chronic disease. The hepatitis B vaccine has been extensively studied and has a strong, decades-long safety record. It remains one of the most effective tools that exists for preventing infections from both known and unrecognized household exposures.

Denver Health will continue to strongly recommend the hepatitis B vaccine at birth, counseling parents on the many benefits of vaccination and the lack of any known serious side effects from the hepatitis B vaccine. This reflects our role as Denver's most trusted leader in evidence-based care, our duty to safeguard the health of infants and children, and our commitment to the health of our communities and all who live in them.

About Denver Health

Denver Health is a comprehensive health and hospital system that provides high-quality care and proudly serves as the city's safety-net hospital. For more than 160 years, Denver Health has been guided by its mission to serve the people of Denver, to educate the next generation of health care professionals and to engage in research and community partnerships to better deliver the services that meet our patients health care needs while strengthening our community.