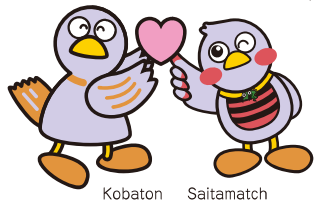


Saitama Medical Support System

Saitama Prefecture has established a support system to assist people with the payment of medical care and examinations for hepatitis.



Kobaton Saitamatch

- ▶▶ **Post-Diagnostic Hepatitis Examination Fees Support System**
(Apply at: Health Care Centers throughout Saitama Prefecture)
Support towards costs associated with follow-up examinations for those who have tested positive for hepatitis (blood tests, radiography, etc.).
- ▶▶ **Hepatitis Treatment and Care Fees Support System**
(Apply at: Health Care Centers throughout Saitama Prefecture)
Saitama Prefectural Government will issue Support Recipient Certificates to people who are recognized by the prefecture as having been diagnosed with chronic viral hepatitis or liver cirrhosis. Medical treatment can be undertaken at a personal expense of around 10,000 - 20,000 JPY.
- ▶▶ **Hepatitis Routine Test Fees Support System**
(Apply at: Health Care Centers throughout Saitama Prefecture)
Support payments will be supplied to assist in covering a portion of medical costs for those who have been diagnosed with chronic viral hepatitis, liver cirrhosis, or liver cancer, as well as those who have finished receiving treatment for these conditions. This payment is provided up to twice per year to people when taking routine health tests (blood tests, radiography). (Those who exceed a certain tax threshold are ineligible for assistance.)

If you would like to know more about hepatitis...

- ◆ **Hepatitis Information Center:**
<http://www.kanen.ncgm.go.jp/category/boshi.html>
- ◆ **Hepatitis Prevention and Support Initiatives in Saitama Prefecture**
<https://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0705/kanentaisaku/index.html>

For consultations regarding hepatitis please call the

Saitama Prefecture Hepatitis Consultation Center

Mon~Fri: 9 a.m.~5 p.m. Sat: 9 a.m.~12 p.m.
(excluding public holidays)

TEL·FAX:049-276-2038
(Japanese only)

You can also contact your local municipal health care center for health-related inquiries regarding mothers and their children.

For inquiries related to this pamphlet, please contact:

General Affairs and Disease Control Group Disease Control Division
Department of Public Health and Medical Services Saitama Prefectural Government
☎048-830-3598

英語版

Health Matters Regarding Hepatitis for Mothers and their Children

For Women
Who Test Positive for Viral
Hepatitis during
Prenatal Examination



Prefectural Mascot: Kobaton

Viral hepatitis testing conducted during prenatal examinations, which are conducted to ensure the health of both a mother and her child, is one of the tests performed during the initial stages of pregnancy.

Hepatitis B test (HB surface antigen) and
hepatitis C test (HCV antibody) are both conducted.

The hepatitis virus causes **disease in the human liver**.
This pamphlet is designed to help you understand how to:

Prevent your child from
becoming infected

and

Maintain your own
physical health



Saitama Prefectural Government

What does it mean to be positive for hepatitis?

HBs-positive (+) ⇒ Infected with the hepatitis B virus.

HCV-positive (+) ⇒ May be infected with the hepatitis C virus.

What happens if I have hepatitis?

Hepatitis B and C viruses are most commonly contracted through contact with blood or other bodily fluids. Also, in some cases, the infected persons may develop chronic hepatitis. Chronic hepatitis is a disease which destroys the cells of the liver, possibly leading to limited movement. Furthermore, chronic hepatitis may progress to cirrhosis (scarring of the liver) and liver cancer. **Symptoms may not appear in the case of liver diseases, and the disease may advance before you realize.**

Hepatitis B and C are the Root Cause of 60% of All Liver Cancers.

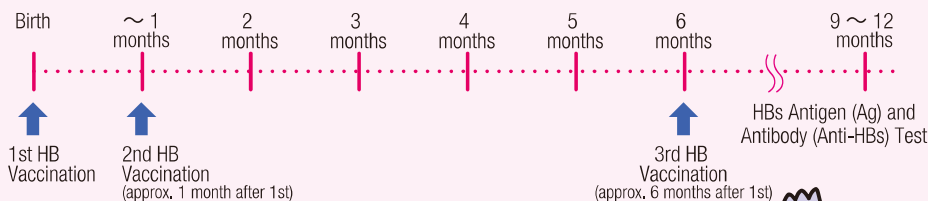
In order to prevent mother-to-infant infection

A pregnant mother infected with the hepatitis virus is capable of infecting her unborn child with the virus during pregnancy or childbirth. In order to avoid infection with the hepatitis B virus, which has a particularly high infection rate, the hepatitis vaccine and globulin are administered to children directly after birth. Also, if a mother has sustained an injury to her areolar region (nipples) and/or is bleeding in the area, it is highly advised that she avoid breastfeeding.

*The rate of infection between a mother and her child by the hepatitis C virus is said to be extremely low. However, it is still advised that you consult with a liver/digestive system specialist for a follow-up examination after childbirth.

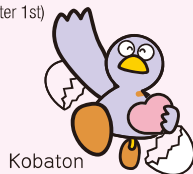
Measures to Prevent the Spread of Hepatitis B from Mother to Child (Schedule from Birth to 6 Months)

1 Administration of Hepatitis B Immune Globulin (▲) .
3 Injections of Hepatitis B Virus Vaccine (↑)



Hepatitis B Immune Globulin (HBIG)
*Administration within 12 hours of birth is optimal.

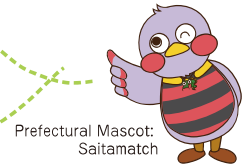
Reference: "Regarding Changes to Methods Used to Prevent Mother-to-Infant HBV Infection" (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Health Service Bureau, Tuberculosis and Infectious Diseases Control Division Notice No. 0317, Article 3, and Employment Environment and Equal Employment Bureau and Child and Family Policy Bureau Notice No. 0317 Article 3, dated March 17, 2014).



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*If test results for hepatitis B are found to be negative (-) during prenatal examination, children receive periodic vaccination (3 times) against hepatitis B starting from 2 months or more after birth.

Be sure to have medical facility staff record all the tests taken and vaccinations received by mothers and children in the chart below!



Prefectural Mascot: Saitamatch

	Timeline	Details	Intended Date of Test/ Vaccination	Date of Test/ Vaccination	Results
Mother	During pregnancy	Hepatitis B Virus Test (HBs Antibody Test)	Month: / Day: /	Month: / Day: /	HBs (+)
		Hepatitis B Virus Test (HBe Antibody Test)		Month: / Day: /	HBe (+ · -)
Child	Immediately after birth (within 12 hours is optimal)	Administration of Hepatitis B Virus Immune Globulin (HBIG) Hepatitis B Virus Vaccine (1st)	Month: / Day: /	Month: / Day: /	/
	1 month after birth	Hepatitis B Virus Vaccine (2nd)	Month: / Day: /	Month: / Day: /	
	6 months after birth	Hepatitis B Virus Vaccine (3rd)	Month: / Day: /	Month: / Day: /	

Health Maintenance for Mothers

Hepatitis B and C viruses can be eliminated from the body and the progression and worsening of the disease can be avoided using oral medicine and medical treatment (injections). It is very important to receive regular medical care during pregnancy and after birth.

*It is also highly recommended that other persons and family members who live together with you receive hepatitis B vaccinations to avoid infection.

*Please speak to your doctor about taking antiviral medicine while you are pregnant.

It is important to receive early diagnosis for liver disease so you can begin discussions regarding further in-depth testing and medical treatment. Please inquire with a medical professional, such as the doctor who performed your prenatal checkup, regarding medical facilities that provide diagnosis and treatment of liver disease. You can use the following resources to locate suitable facilities and medical professionals:

Specialist Medical Facilities Offering Diagnosis and Treatment of Liver Disease

○ You can receive medical treatment for liver disease at the medical facilities listed on the following sites:

◆ List of medical facilities with liver specialists (The Japan Society of Hepatology Website)
https://www.jsh.or.jp/medical/specialists/specialists_list.html

◆ List of medical facilities with specialists who have undertaken the Saitama Prefecture Hepatitis Seminar (Saitama Prefectural Government Official Website)
<https://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0705/kanentaisaku/kanenkensyuujukousya.html>