

Saitama Prefecture Financial Assistance Program

Saitama Prefecture has an established program to assist with the cost of medical treatment and examinations for hepatitis.

- ▶▶ **Initial Comprehensive Hepatitis Screening Fee Assistance**
(Apply at: Public health centers in Saitama Prefecture)
Assistance with initial comprehensive screening (blood tests, medical imaging) costs for persons who have tested positive for hepatitis.
- ▶▶ **Hepatitis Treatment and Medical Care Fee Assistance**
(Apply at: Public health centers in Saitama Prefecture)
Healthcare Recipient Certificates will be issued to patients with chronic hepatitis or cirrhosis caused by hepatitis virus who have received approval from the Saitama Prefectural Government. Treatment can be received at a fixed personal expense (10,000-20,000 JPY per month).
- ▶▶ **Routine Hepatitis Screening Fee Assistance**
(Apply at: Public health centers in Saitama Prefecture)
Partial assistance with the cost of routine screenings (blood tests, medical imaging) up to twice a year for persons who have been diagnosed with chronic hepatitis, cirrhosis, or liver cancer due to hepatitis virus, as well as persons who have completed their treatment. (Persons who exceed the tax threshold are not eligible for this assistance.)



Kobaton Saitamatch

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

◆Hepatitis Information Center:

Mother-to-child Transmission of Hepatitis B
<http://www.kanen.jihs.go.jp/category/boshi.html>



◆Hepatitis Initiatives in Saitama Prefecture
(Saitama Prefectural Government website)
<https://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0705/kanentaisaku/index.html>



For consultations regarding hepatitis,
please call the Hepatology Consultation Center.

Saitama Hepatology Consultation Center
Monday to Friday, 9am - 5pm
Phone: 049-276-2038 Fax: 049-276-2068
Email: kanzo@1972.saitama-med.ac.jp

You can contact your local municipal health care center for consultations about health-related matters for mothers and infants.

For inquiries about 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

Information about Hepatitis for Mothers and Infants

For mothers who test **positive** for hepatitis during the prenatal checkup



Saitama Prefectural Mascot, Kobaton

Viral hepatitis screening in prenatal checkups, which are conducted to manage the health of the mother and infant, is one of the tests performed during the initial stages of pregnancy. Two tests are conducted: the **Hepatitis B Surface Antigen (HBsAg) test**, and the **Hepatitis C Virus (HCV antibody) test**.

Viral hepatitis causes **disease in the liver**.

But, it's going to be okay.

This pamphlet will provide you with information about

**Preventing Mother-to-child
Transmission**

and

**Health Management
for Mothers**

What does a positive result for hepatitis mean?

HBsAG positive (+) ⇒ You currently have hepatitis B.
Anti-HCV positive (+) ⇒ There is a possibility you may currently have hepatitis C.

If you test positive for hepatitis, leaving it untreated may lead to cirrhosis or liver cancer for both you and your infant.

Preventing Mother-to-child Transmission

If a mother has hepatitis, it can be passed on to her infant during pregnancy or childbirth.
Due to the high transmission rate of hepatitis B, the hepatitis vaccine and globulin are administered to infants immediately after birth to prevent transmission.

The probability of mother-to-child transmission of hepatitis C is said to be about 10%. Taking the HCV-RNA test within one year of birth can confirm whether or not there has been mother-to-child transmission. In the case of transmission, the mother and the infant will need to attend regular checkups. Treatment is possible as there is currently medicine for young children.

Early testing and proper treatment is the first step in protecting your child's health.

Health Management for Mothers

Managing your health is just as important as caring for your child. First, you should go to a medical institution where you can receive specialized treatment for liver disease. The current status of the liver will be assessed through a detailed blood test and abdominal ultrasound. Treatment tailored to the patient's condition and routine follow-up appointments will be required.

Medical Institutions that Provide Specialized Treatment for Liver Diseases

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

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

◆ List of medical institutions with physicians who attended the Saitama Prefecture Hepatitis Specialist Seminar
 (Official Saitama Prefectural Government Website)
<https://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0705/kanentaisaku/kanen-kensyujuukousya.html>

(List of Saitama Prefecture Hepatitis Treatment Seminar participants)



Measures to Prevent Mother-to-child Transmission of Hepatitis B (Schedule from Birth to 6 Months)

Your child will receive one dose of hepatitis B immunoglobulin (▲) and 3 doses of the hepatitis B vaccine (▲).



Reference: "Regarding Changes to Methods for Preventing Mother-to-child Transmission of Hepatitis B" (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, Maternal and Child Health Division, Notice No. 0317 Article 3; dated March 17, 2014).

*If you test negative (-) for HBsAG during the prenatal checkup, your child will receive routine vaccination (3 doses) for hepatitis B starting from two months after birth.

The results of the hepatitis B and hepatitis C tests conducted during pregnancy, as well as the infant's hepatitis B vaccinations, can be recorded in the Maternal and Child Health Handbook. The medical institution will fill out these sections, and you can make sure the records are up to date.



Saitama Prefectural Mascot, Saitamatch

Immunization Record

Vaccine	Immunization Date Y/M/D(age)	Manufacturer/Lot. No.	Physician's Signature	Remarks
Hepatitis B	1st			
	2nd			
	3rd			

Record of Checkups

Type of Checkup	Checkup Date	Notes
HBs (Hepatitis B virus) Antigen	Given _____ (Year) _____ (Month) _____ (Day)	
HCV (hepatitis C) Antibody	Given _____ (Year) _____ (Month) _____ (Day)	

Excerpt from the official Maternal and Child Health Handbook (Children and Families Agency)

*If you test positive for hepatitis during your prenatal checkup, you may be eligible for the Medical Fee Assistance Program. For more information, please contact your medical institution or the front desk at your local municipality.