

## Hepatitis B Virus Infection – High Endemic Geographic Areas

Children whose families have immigrated to Canada from areas where there is a high prevalence (8% or higher) of hepatitis B are at increased risk of hepatitis B infections even if neither parent is a chronic carrier. Adults who have immigrated from these areas are also at increased risk for hepatitis B infection. These children and adults are likely to be exposed to hepatitis B carriers through their extended families or when visiting friends and relatives in their country of origin and should be offered hepatitis B vaccine.

Countries considered highly endemic (8% or higher HBsAg prevalence) for hepatitis B infection are listed by geographical areas below. Countries with no recent data that were previously listed as endemic are *italicized* below and individuals from these countries remain eligible for hepatitis B vaccine.

### Africa

Angola	Guinea	<i>Namibia</i>
<i>Botswana</i>	Guinea-Bissau	Niger
Central African Republic	Lesotho	Nigeria
Chad	Liberia	Sierra Leone
<i>Equatorial Guinea</i>	Mali	Eswatini (Swaziland)
Ghana	Mauritania	Togo
		Zimbabwe

### Central and Eastern Europe (including the independent states of the former Soviet Union) and the Middle East

Turkmenistan

### Central and South America (interior Amazon basin and parts of the Caribbean)

No countries identified.

### North America

No countries identified.

### Southeast Asia and the South and Western Pacific Islands

Philippines	Taiwan
Solomon Islands	Timor-Leste (East Timor)

## References:

1. Alberta Health, Public Health and Compliance Division, Alberta Immunization Policy (2024, April 2). *Hepatitis B Virus Infection – High Endemic Geographic Areas*
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3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Map 5-07 Worldwide prevalence of hepatitis B virus infection [Internet]. CDC Yellow Book 2024: Travel Associated Infections and Diseases. 2023. Available from: [https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/content/images/yellowbook/2024/369\\_MAP\\_5-07\\_Worldwide\\_prevalence\\_of\\_hepatitis\\_B\\_virus\\_infection.jpg](https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/content/images/yellowbook/2024/369_MAP_5-07_Worldwide_prevalence_of_hepatitis_B_virus_infection.jpg).
4. National Advisory Committee on Immunization. Canadian Immunization Guide (Evergreen ed.) [Internet]. Ottawa, ON: Public Health Agency of Canada. 2017. Available from: [www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publicat/cig-gci/index-eng.php](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publicat/cig-gci/index-eng.php).
5. Tripathi, N., Mousa OY. National Center for Biotechnology Information. StatsPearls: Hepatitis B [Internet]. National Institutes of Health. 2023 [cited 2023 Dec 15]. Available from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK555945/>.