

# Hepatitis B algorithm

## Who to test?

### *At-risk patients*

- Contacts of HBsAg-positive people
  - People whose mother or close family member has hepatitis B
  - Anyone living with an infected person
- Maori, Pacific and Asian people born in New Zealand and aged over 25
- Immigrants of any age from Pacific Island, Asian, Middle Eastern or African countries



## Diagnostic serology tests

- HBsAg – Hepatitis B Surface Antigen – indicates active infection when positive
  - Anti-HBc – Indicates current or past infection
  - Anti-HBs – Indicates immunity if >10 IU/L (if HBsAg negative)
- If surface antigen is negative and antibody-positive, the patient is immune and no further action is needed.



## HBsAg-negative

Anti-HBs and Anti-HBc NEGATIVE

Consider HBV vaccination



## HBsAg-positive

Refer to the Hepatitis Foundation



## The Hepatitis Foundation will organise:

- Additional blood tests and investigations: HBeAg liver function tests (LFTs), alphafetoprotein (AFP), Full Blood Count (FBC), INR.
- Liver ultrasound for raised AFP, high-risk patients with a family history of hepatocellular cancer (HCC - liver cancer)
- Long-term monitoring including six-monthly blood tests (or as required), information, education and support. Home visits if required. Free testing of other family members.
- Urgent referral to secondary care for patients with active hepatitis, cirrhosis, raised AFP (excluding pregnancy) and women who need treatment during pregnancy.



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