

Documenting the Impact of Hepatitis B Immunization: best practices for conducting a serosurvey

Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals



**World Health
Organization**

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Abbreviations

AEFI	Adverse events following immunization
Anti-HBc	Antibody to hepatitis B core antigen
Anti-HBs	Antibody to hepatitis B surface antigen
DE	Design effect
EDTA	Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid
EMR	WHO Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office
EPI	Expanded programme on immunization
HAV	Hepatitis A virus
HBeAg	Hepatitis B e antigen
HBsAg	Hepatitis B surface antigen
HBV	Hepatitis B virus
HCC	Hepatocellular carcinoma
HEV	Hepatitis E virus
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
OR	Odds ratio
WHO	World Health Organization
WPR	WHO Western Mediterranean Regional Office

Glossary

Anti-HBc	Antibodies to Hepatitis B core antigen (HBcAg) – a protein found in the core of the virus.
Anti-HBs	Antibodies to the surface antigen of hepatitis B virus.
HBeAg	Hepatitis B ‘e’ antigen – indicates greater infectivity in current infection.
HBsAg	Hepatitis B surface antigen: a protein from the virus’s coat. A positive test for HBsAg indicates active HBV infection. The immune response to HBsAg provides the basis for immunity against HBV, and HBsAg is the main component of HepB.
HCC	Hepatocellular carcinoma, or primary liver cancer - a major complication of chronic HBV infection; usually fatal.
Seroprevalence	Percentage of a population positive for a specific antigen (e.g. HBsAg) or antibody (e.g. to anti-HBc).

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