

May 19th is World Hepatitis Day ~ Hepatitis B is a highly infectious disease caused by the Hepatitis B virus (HBV). Chronic HBV infection can lead to cirrhosis of the liver, liver cancer, liver failure, and death.

Medicare covers the Hepatitis B vaccine and its administration for Medicare beneficiaries with an intermediate to high risk of contracting the disease. CMS has created several educational products to help Medicare providers understand this benefit, including:

- The Adult Immunizations Brochure ~ provides coverage information for the Hepatitis B vaccine
http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/adult_immunization.pdf
- The Medicare Preventive Services Quick Reference Information: Medicare Part B Immunization Billing Chart ~ provides billing and coding information for the Hepatitis B vaccine
http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/qr_immun_bill.pdf

For more information about Medicare-covered preventive services, including the Hepatitis B vaccine, please visit our Preventive Services page on the Medicare Learning Network at:

http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/35_PreventiveServices.asp