**Author(s):** SAGE Hepatitis Working Group

**Question:** Should hepatitis B immunoglobulin at birth versus placebo or no intervention be used for the prevention of hepatitis B virus infection?

**Setting:** General population (global)

**Conclusion:** Moderate quality evidence to support effectiveness of HBIG given at birth to prevent HBV infection.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality assessment</th>
<th>Summary of Findings</th>
<th>Importance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>No of studies</strong></td>
<td><strong>Design</strong></td>
<td><strong>Limitations</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hepatitis B infection (follow-up mean 15 months; HBsAg, HBeAg, anti-HBc)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>randomized trials</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 One RCT was found that addressed the issue of efficacy of hepatitis B immunoglobulin (HBIG) given “at birth” compared with placebo/no intervention for the prevention of hepatitis B virus infection.
2 Randomization generation unclear and allocation concealment unclear.
3 Number of patients HBIG versus control: 66/139 (47.5%) vs 68/73 (93.2%). Relative effect (95% CI): RR 0.50 (0.41 to 0.60).

**Bibliography:**
