ALL NURSES HAVE A ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY TO IDENTIFY PEOPLE WITH, OR AT RISK OF, HEPATITIS B and to provide culturally appropriate, person-centred testing, education and monitoring-related care.

**THE NURSE’S ROLE IN CARING FOR PEOPLE WITH, OR AT RISK OF, HEPATITIS B**

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**DOMAIN 1**

### IDENTIFY PEOPLE AT RISK

Considering hepatitis B virus is transmitted through contact with infected blood and body fluids, identify priority populations including:
- Children born to mothers in high prevalence countries or where hepatitis B vaccination is inaccessible
- People migrating from a country of high prevalence and/or where hepatitis B vaccine is inaccessible
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- Unsafe sexual contact
- People who inject drugs
- People who are not vaccinated or received incomplete vaccination
- People living with a person with hepatitis B
- Children born to women with hepatitis B.

### MONITORING-RELATED NURSING CARE

Encourage and support adherence to ongoing monitoring:
- Assess and address adherence to life-long hepatitis B monitoring and HCC surveillance
- Assess and address adherence to antiviral treatment during the antenatal and postnatal periods, and following cessation of antiviral treatment
- Educate about the risk of hepatitis B reactivation in the setting of immunosuppression
- Explore options for shared management with nurse-led or General Practitioner (GP) care and implement the best model.

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### TREATMENT-RELATED CARE

The nurse has an important role in providing treatment-related care, including:
- Monitoring associated with life-long antiviral treatment
- Monitoring adherence
- Management of potential side effects

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### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Australian Hepatology Association (AHA) at: www.hepatitisaustralia.com
- Australian Society for HIV Medicine (ASHM) at: www.ashm.org.au
- Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) at: www.immunisation.gov.au
- The nurse has an important role in providing treatment-related care, including:
- Monitoring associated with life-long antiviral treatment
- Monitoring adherence
- Management of potential side effects

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### REFERENCES