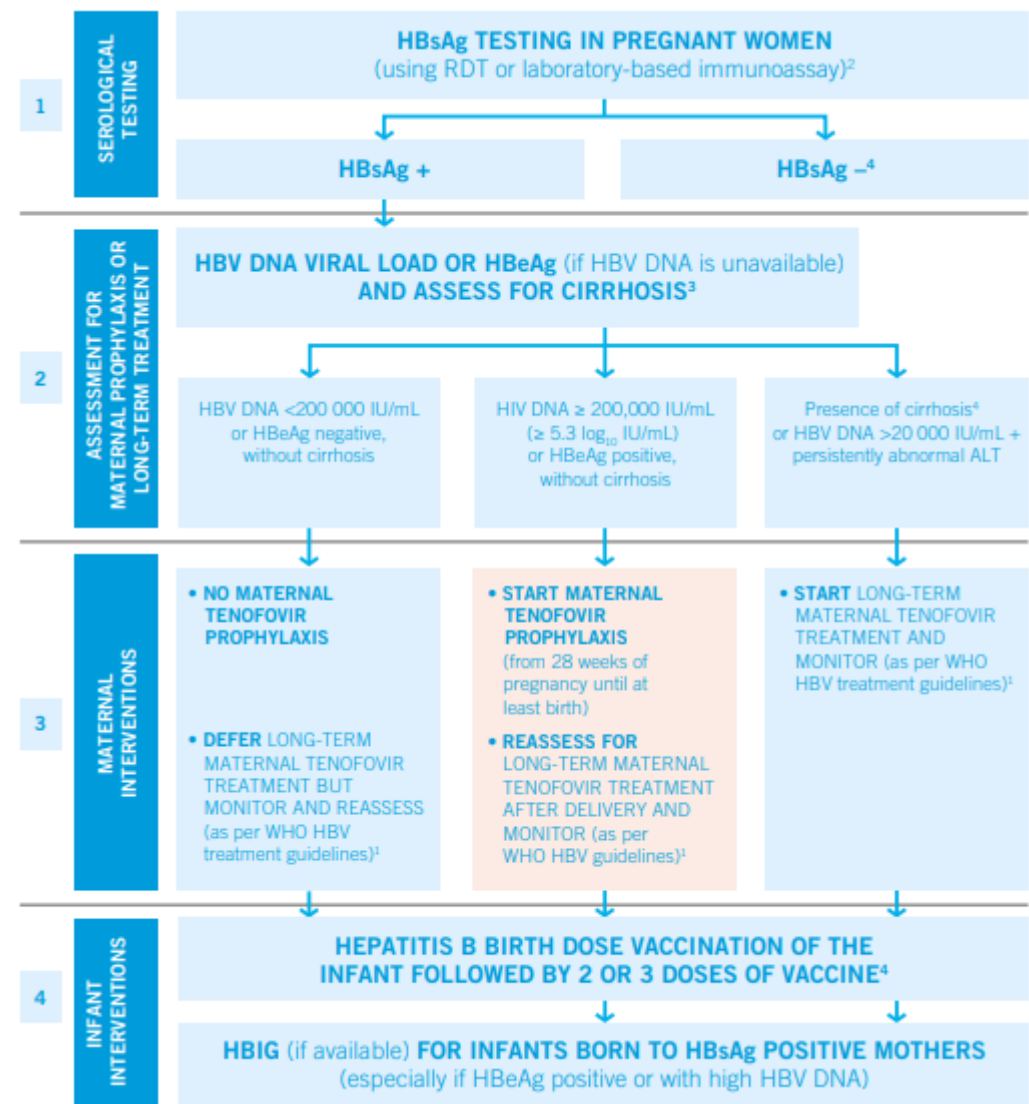


HBsAg Positive in Pregnancy

Key Facts

- Testing for HBsAg should be performed on **all women** at the first prenatal visit and repeated late in pregnancy in those at high risk for HBV infection.
- Administering hepatitis B immunoglobulin (HBIG) and hepatitis B vaccine to infants born to HBsAg positive mothers at delivery can reduce transmission by at least **95 percent**.
- In addition to immunization of newborns, antiviral therapy for the mother may reduce the risk of mother-to-child transmission.
- Cesarean delivery is not routinely recommended for HBsAg positive mothers for the sole purpose of reducing HBV transmission.
- Transmission of HBV through breastfeeding is unlikely, particularly in infants who received HBIG and hepatitis B vaccine at birth.

Approach to HBsAg positive in a pregnant woman: follow the algorithm below which is adapted from WHO guideline.



*Note- In our setting Tenofovir comes as a fixed dose combination with Lamivudine so not available separately.

References:

Prevention of mother-to-child transmission of Hepatitis B virus, guidelines on antiviral prophylaxis in pregnancy (WHO, 2020)
Hepatitis B and pregnancy (UpToDate- accessed June 2023)