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IN ANY CORRESPONDENCE ON

THIS SUBJECT PLEASE QUOTE NO. **ADM.80/105/01**



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

Ministry of Health
P. O. Box 7272
Plot 6, Lourdel Road
KAMPALA
UGANDA

31st August, 2021

District Health Officer
Regional Hospital Directors

RE: TESTING ALL PREGNANT MOTHERS FOR HEPATITIS B AT ANTENATAL CARE SERVICES.

Following the recent global guidance by World health organization, WHO on interventions geared towards triple elimination of Mother-to-Child Transmission (MTCT) of HIV, Syphilis and Hepatitis B and subsequent adoption in the Consolidated Guidelines for the Prevention and Treatment of HIV and AIDS in Uganda. Uganda has now scaled up testing for hepatitis B as part of the antenatal care package among all pregnant women. This intervention will provide a framework to eliminate MTCT of Hepatitis B through reduction of new hepatitis B infections among newborn babies.

The Ministry of Health with support from its partners, the Global Fund (GF) and PEPFAR has procured hepatitis B testing kits specifically for PMTCT of hepatitis B and these kits are currently available at National Medical Stores. To that effect, all districts should ensure that their health facilities make orders through the electronic order form and ensure that all pregnant women across the country be tested at least once during antenatal care visit as per the algorithm for Hepatitis B testing in the National Hepatitis treatment guidelines and the Maternal and Child Health consolidated guidelines for the Prevention and Treatment of HIV and AIDS in Uganda.

The National Medical Stores has incorporated the hepatitis test kits in the electronic order form to allow health facilities place their orders directly to NMS. Private Non-For-Profit health, PNFP facilities can also obtain the test kits from their respective warehouses through normal ordering and requisition processes.

This is therefore to request you to ensure that orders for the hepatitis test kits are made by the health facilities in your districts so that all pregnant mothers attending antenatal care services are tested for hepatitis B.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'John Mwezi', written over a horizontal line.



Dr. Henry G. Mwebesa
Director General Health Services

- CC: Hon. Minister of health
- CC: Permanent Secretary
- CC: Commissioner National Disease Control
- CC: Commissioner Maternal and Child Health
- CC: Program manager, UNEPI