

Protecting Baby from HIV:

Preventing HIV Transmission from Birth Parent to Baby



- Pregnant People with HIV should take medicines that control HIV (antiretrovirals) before, during, and after pregnancy.
- Babies should be given HIV medicines after birth and continue for the first 2 to 6 weeks of life.



- The use of formula eliminates the risk of HIV transmission through feeding.
- For parents consistently taking HIV medicines, with undetectable levels of HIV in their blood, the risk of transmission through breast/chestfeeding is less than 1%, but not zero.
- People with HIV should discuss options for feeding their babies with their providers.



- Pregnant people with high or unknown levels of HIV in their blood may have a scheduled C-section (Cesarean section) to reduce the risk of HIV transmission to the baby during delivery.

For more information, visit [HIVinfo.NIH.gov](https://www.hivinfo.nih.gov).