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## Hepatitis B Vaccination Phase Begins in Cuban Province

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The Cuban vaccine HeberNasvac for the treatment of chronic hepatitis B will begin its fourth phase of application at the Camilo Cienfuegos General University Hospital in this province, health sources reported today.

Lourdes Perez, first degree specialist in Gastroenterology, informed the local media that in this stage more than 200 patients infected with this virus will benefit.

The principal investigator of the clinical study at the health center said the drug has the potential to kill the surface antigen which causes the infections resulting in chronic liver disease.

This vaccine, produced by the Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (CIGB) in Havana, is administered nasally and subcutaneously in its second cycle and causes fewer adverse reactions than previous treatments.

According to Perez, patients who are not treated promptly may progress to liver cirrhosis, hepatocarcinoma and other complications.

The HeberNasvac, with a sanitary validation that allows its use in several countries, has become a door of hope in a scenario where every year nearly one

million people die from complex liver diseases, according to the World Health Organization.

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