

Hepatitis B Vaccination Schedule

To meet the requirements for Hepatitis B you must provide evidence of a completed, age-appropriate course of vaccines and a copy of post-vaccination serology (blood test) with surface antibody levels (anti-HBs) \geq 10mIU/mL).

Age-appropriate vaccination schedule				
Age	Doses	1	2	3
Under 20 years of age	3 paediatric doses	0 month	1 - 2 months	4** - 6 months
11-15 years of age*	2 adult doses	0 month	6 months	-
Over 20 years of age	3 adult doses	0 month	1 month	4** - 6 months

*If you have received 2 adult doses of Hep B vaccine given 4 - 6 months apart between the ages of 11 and 15, a 3rd dose is not required if your serology shows that you have immunity. Please submit a copy of your vaccination evidence to Hep B Dose 3 check in Sonia so it can be completed.

**4 months is the minimum interval between dose 1 and dose 3 as per the [Australian Immunisation Handbook](#). There must also be a minimum of 1 month between dose 1 and dose 2, and a minimum of 2 months between dose 2 and dose 3.

Commencement of any accelerated course of Hepatitis B will NOT be accepted.

Booster Schedule

A booster dose is required if you have surface antibody levels (anti-HBs) < 10mIU/mL after completing a full age-appropriate course of Hepatitis B vaccinations. Followed by another serology 4 weeks later. If this serology still shows surface antibody levels (anti-HBs) < 10mIU/mL, proceed with the booster schedule below. Please contact the Health Placement Support Hub for advice if required.

Hepatitis B booster schedule	
Dose	Serology
Dose 1**	Wait 4 weeks and redo serology
Dose 2	Wait 4 weeks and have 3rd dose
Dose 3	Wait 4 weeks and redo serology

** If after the 1st booster dose the serology is <10 mIU/mL, blood test to be performed to rule out HBV infection.

Hepatitis B Non-Responder

As outlined in the [Australian Immunisation Handbook](#) a non-responder is a person without HBV infection who has a documented history of an age-appropriate primary course of Hepatitis B vaccine, but with a current surface antibody (anti-HBs) level <10 mIU/mL.

Persons who do not respond to the primary vaccination course, and in whom chronic HBV infection has been excluded, should be offered further doses. A single booster dose (4th dose) of vaccine can be given to confirm non-responder status. Persons who are non-responders after receiving the

booster (4th dose), and in whom HBV infection has been excluded, should receive 2 more doses of the Hepatitis B vaccine 1 month apart. The person should be re-tested for anti-HBs levels at least 4 weeks after the last dose.

If the Hepatitis B surface antibody levels are still <10 mIU/mL after the 3rd and final booster dose, the student will need to complete the *Non-Responder to Hepatitis B Vaccine Acknowledgement form* and discuss with their GP or Course/Program Convener strategies to keep themselves safe while on placement. Please contact the Health Placement Support Hub for a copy of the form.

Hepatitis B Positive Status

Students who are identified as having a positive status to the Hepatitis B virus are required to follow this process:

Hepatitis B positive process			
Surface antigen	Surface antibody	Core antibody	Outcome
Negative	≥10IU/L	Negative	Student has immunity. Student to provided evidence of a completed age-appropriate course of vaccines.
Negative	≥10IU/L	Positive	Student not required to have vaccines as built-up own immunity due to past exposure to virus
Positive	<10IU/L	Negative	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Student provided with Request to GP for Infectious Disease Specialist Referral letter for treatment and management 2. Student to provide a letter from Infectious Disease Specialist on current health status and what the student can and can't do while on placement 3. Student signs Consent Form provided by the Health Placement Support Hub 4. Course/Program Convener discusses student's status with student if required, and prospective placement supervisor
Positive	<10IU/L	Positive	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Student provided with Request to GP for Infectious Disease Specialist Referral letter for treatment and management 2. Student to provide a letter from Infectious Disease Specialist on current health status and what the student can and can't do while on placement 3. Student signs Consent Form provided by the Health Placement Support Hub 4. Course/Program Convener discusses student's status with student if required, and prospective placement supervisor

Hepatitis B Vaccination Contraindications

Prior to Hepatitis B vaccination you should discuss contraindications with your medical practitioner. Contraindications to Hepatitis B vaccination are given in the latest edition of the [Australian Immunisation Handbook](#)