

Hepatitis B Immunisation Information

Hepatitis B Vaccination Schedule

Prior to undertaking your placement you must provide evidence of a completed, age-appropriate course of Hepatitis B vaccine (with date and batch numbers) and documented evidence of post-vaccination blood test (levels anti-HBs \geq 10mIU/mL) or evidence of Hepatitis B infection.

| Historical and age-appropriate vaccination schedule | | | | |
|--|--------------------|----------|----------|--------------|
| Age | Doses | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Under 20 years of age | 3 paediatric doses | 0 month | 1 month | 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**-6months |

*If you have received 2 doses of Hep B vaccine approx 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 the document with your 2 doses so this Check can be accepted and completed.

**4 months is the minimum interval period that is acceptable as per page 213 of the [Australian Immunisation Handbook](#).

Commencement of any accelerated course of Hepatitis B where a booster is recommended to be given at 12 months after the first dose will NOT be accepted.

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](#)

Vaccine Non-Responders

Please contact the Fit for Placement Office immediately if after your Hepatitis B vaccinations you do not have levels anti-HBs \geq 10mIU/mL.

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 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 being given the booster/4th dose (and in whom HBV infection has been excluded) should have 2 further doses of Hepatitis B vaccine at

monthly intervals, and be retested for anti-HBs levels at least 4 weeks after the last dose.*

* The [Australian Immunisation Handbook](#) 10th Edition (updated June 2015), Part 4 Vaccine- Preventable Diseases, Page 227

Booster Schedule

| 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.

If serology is still <10 mIU/mL after 3rd and final booster dose, student will need to complete Hep B Non Responder form and discuss with their GP or Course/Program Convener strategies to keep themselves safe while on placement.

- [Non-responder to Hepatitis B Vaccine Acknowledgement form \(PDF 51kb\)](#)

Infected Individuals

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

| Hepatitis B process | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|---------------|---|
| Surface antigen | Surface antibody | Core antibody | Outcome |
| Negative | >=10IU/L | Negative | Student has immunity. Student to provide 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 | Student provided with Request to GP for Infectious Disease Specialist Referral letter for treatment and management Student to provide a letter from Infectious Disease Specialist on current status and what the student can and can't do while on placement Student to make an appointment with Dr Gary Rogers Deputy Head of School of Medicine Student signs Consent Form (PDF 59KB) Course/Program Convener discusses students status with prospective placement supervisor |

| | | | |
|-----------------|---------|----------|--|
| Positive | <10IU/L | Positive | <p>Student provided with Request to GP for Infectious Disease Specialist Referral letter for treatment and management</p> <p>Student to provide a letter from Infectious Disease Specialist on current status and what the student can and can't do while on placement</p> <p>Student to make an appointment with Dr Gary Rogers Deputy Head of School of Medicine</p> <p>Student signs Consent Form (PDF 59KB)</p> <p>Course/Program Convener discusses students status with prospective placement supervisor</p> |
|-----------------|---------|----------|--|