

Immunisations, vaccinations and routine health checks

Type of vaccination/ health check	Staff category						Evidence required in order to clear you Where documented evidence is requested, we require an official, stamped report from your GP or a previous Occupational Health department
	A	B	C	D	E	F	
Hand skin assessment	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Self declaration in Work Health Assessment
Tuberculosis (TB) signs & symptoms	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Self declaration in Work Health Assessment
BCG history/ scar check		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Documented evidence of BCG vaccination <i>or</i> a BCG scar witnessed by a suitably qualified health professional <i>or</i> a positive tuberculin test
Measles and rubella		✓	✓		✓	✓	Documented evidence of 2 MMR vaccines <i>or</i> 2 measles/rubella containing vaccines <i>or</i> blood tests showing immunity
Varicella (Chicken Pox)		✓	✓		✓	✓	Self declaration in Work Health Assessment <i>or</i> verbal history of having had the disease <i>or</i> documented evidence of previous infection <i>or</i> a blood test showing immunity <i>or</i> 2 varicella vaccines
BCG vaccination			✓	✓		✓	Documented evidence of BCG vaccination <i>or</i> a BCG scar witnessed by a suitably qualified health professional <i>or</i> a positive tuberculin test
Full course of Hepatitis B vaccines			✓	✓	✓	✓	Documented evidence of 3 vaccines, usually given at 0, 1 and 6 months
Hepatitis B antibody blood test			✓	✓	✓	✓	Documented evidence of the results of an antibody test showing immunity. This should be >100mIU/ml. If between 10-100 (weak response) you should have received a fourth vaccine soon afterwards. If the result is <10, you should have received a second complete course and have had a further blood test
Hepatitis B 5 year booster vaccine			✓	✓	✓	✓	Documented evidence of a single booster vaccine roughly 5 years or more after the initial course
Course of Hepatitis A vaccines				✓	✓		Documented evidence of 2 vaccines 6-12 months apart
EPP clearance (HIV, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C)						✓	Documented evidence of past clearance to perform EPP at another hospital <i>or</i> the results of an Identity Verified Sample (IVS) of blood showing negative results for Hepatitis B surface antigen, Hepatitis C antibodies and HIV. If laboratory reports are submitted, the report must be from an accredited UK laboratory and marked IVS.

Occupational Health and Well-being

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A guide for employees

Protecting your health

As an employee in a healthcare setting you may be exposed to a number of hazards in the course of your work. These hazards include blood-borne viral infections which can be passed on by direct exposure to bodily fluids (e.g. Hepatitis A, B, or C, HIV) or by close proximity to infected people (e.g. measles, rubella, varicella). It is possible to be vaccinated against some (but not all) of these infections, or you may be immune because you have had an infection and recovered from it sometime in the past.

Depending on your role you will be required to receive a number of nationally recommended vaccinations *or* to show that you are already immune to the viruses which these vaccines protect against. This is to help to protect you from being infected as well as to protect patients from picking up infection from you.

The categories below and the table overleaf will help you to see which vaccinations are required in order for you to work in your particular role.

If you are unsure or unhappy about receiving any of these required vaccinations, you should contact the Occupational Health department to discuss this as soon as possible, preferably *before* you accept/commence your job.

Continued susceptibility to any of these viruses may affect your suitability to work in your chosen area.

Any outstanding immunisations, blood tests or health checks will be carried out by experienced Occupational Health staff. *With the exception of EPP and TB clearance*, these vaccinations and health checks should not delay you starting your job.

Categories of staff

- A.** You fall into category **A** if your role does *not* require you to have contact with patients or clinical materials, e.g. medical secretaries, office workers, etc.
- B.** You fall into category **B** if you have a role which requires you to have contact with patients but are *not* involved in their physical care or exposed to clinical waste/materials, e.g. ward clerks, reception staff, volunteers, chaplaincy team, etc.
- C.** You fall into category **C** if your job requires you to care for patients in a 'hands-on' role or are exposed to clinical waste/materials, e.g. doctors, nurses, health-care assistants, cleaners, ward-based pharmacy staff, physiotherapists, radiotherapists, porters, etc. (**See also category F**)

- D.** You fall into category **D** if you work in a laboratory and handle clinical materials – although the final assessment will depend on what sort of clinical material you work with.
- E.** You fall into category **E** if you are involved in maintenance work where you may be exposed to human waste, e.g. plumbers, carpenters, electricians, etc. (most maintenance staff are required to work on-call shifts and perform a variety of roles).
- F.** You fall into category **F** if you have an additional role which may require you to perform "Exposure Prone Procedures" (EPP), i.e. doctors, dentists, midwives, ODPs, theatre/Emergency Department nurses.

Exposure Prone Procedures are those procedures where the worker's gloved hands may be in contact with sharp instruments, needle tips or sharp tissue (e.g. spicules of bone or teeth) inside a patient's open body cavity, wound or confined anatomical space where the hands or fingertips may not be completely visible at all times.

For further information contact Occupational Health on 01225 824064
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