

**Oregon Department of Corrections
Offer/Declination of Hepatitis B Vaccination**

Attachment A
DOC Policy 20.6.7

To: All Department of Corrections Employees

Subject: Hepatitis B Vaccination

The Department of Corrections offers hepatitis B vaccination to every employee who may be at risk of an occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious material in accordance with OR-OSHA rules regarding blood borne pathogens. The following broad classification of Corrections employees have been determined to have a risk of occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious material:

Institution Security	Health Services	Physical Plant
Food Service Staff	Education Staff	Recreation Staff
Safety Manager	Staff who do Searches	

If specific tasks in your job provide a risk of occupational exposure to blood borne pathogens and you are not included in the above classifications please discuss your concerns with your supervisor immediately and make arrangements to be included in the next vaccination clinic.

The vaccination consists of a series of three inoculations provided by the Department at no cost to Department employees. The vaccine is a synthetic compound in a yeast derivative. It is not a live virus vaccine. The first vaccination is given; the second follows 30 days later; the series is ended normally with the third vaccination six months from the date of the first. In the future if a booster is recommended by the U.S. Public Health Service it also shall be provided at no cost to the employee.

OR-OSHA and DOC policy requires that the Department of Corrections have on file a form indicating that you accept or decline the offer to be vaccinated.

COMPLETE AND CIRCLE YOUR CHOICE BELOW:

Print Name:	Employee OR No.:
Signature:	Date:
Functional Unit:	
Please Circle Either 1, (A, B, or C) to Decline or 2, to Accept	
<p>1. I DECLINE TO BE VACCINATED BECAUSE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. I have previously completed or started and intend to complete the HEP B Vaccination elsewhere. B. I understand due to my occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious material, I may be at risk of acquiring hepatitis B virus infection. I have been given the opportunity to receive this vaccination at no cost to myself; however, I decline to be vaccinated at this time. I understand that by declining this vaccine, I continue to be at risk of acquiring hepatitis B. If in the future I want to be vaccinated, I can receive the vaccination series at no cost to me by notifying my supervisor and requesting to be scheduled for vaccination. C. I do not have a risk of occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials and decline to be vaccinated. 	
<p>2. I WANT THE HEPATITIS B VACCINATION OFFERED BY MY EMPLOYER AT NO COST. I ALSO AGREE TO COMPLETE THE VACCINATION SERIES IN THE APPROPRIATE TIME FRAME.</p>	

Return this form to: DOC - Human Resources - Records
1793 13th Street SE
Salem, OR 97302-2595

Facts about Hepatitis B



❖ Do you know how you can contract it?

Hepatitis B virus (HBV) is hardy and easier to “catch” than you might realize. HBV is found mainly in blood, semen and vaginal fluid. In certain situations, it is up to 100 times more contagious than HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. Hepatitis B virus can survive for up to 7 days in dried blood or exposed surfaces. You are at increased risk if you have an open sore or wound and come in contact with any of these fluids in their dried or liquid state.

❖ Do you know how sick it can make you?

Hepatitis B attacks your liver and can make you extremely ill. Some patients even require hospitalization. The disease can lead to cirrhosis of the liver or liver cancer. Among the most common symptoms are fatigue, mild fever, muscle or joint aches, nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, vague abdominal pain and sometimes diarrhea. Many times the virus goes undiagnosed because the symptoms are flu-like. Each year there are up to 200,000 cases of hepatitis B and 5,000 hepatitis B related deaths in the United States.

❖ Do you know how you can prevent Hepatitis B?

Hepatitis B can be prevented with three vaccination shots. The normal vaccination schedule used is two injections, one month apart, followed by a third injection six months after the first one. Common side effects from the shot are swelling, redness and soreness at the site of the injection. To find out if the hepatitis B vaccination is right for you, contact your doctor.

❖ Do you know how to find the free vaccination clinics offered by Department of Corrections?

Hepatitis B clinics are held free of charge, on a regular basis for at risk DOC employees. You can contact your institution or area Safety Manager for a list of clinic locations, dates and times.

HEPATITIS B VACCINE

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Many Vaccine Information Statements are available in Spanish and other languages. See www.immunize.org/vis.

1 What is hepatitis B?

Hepatitis B is a serious disease that affects the liver. It is caused by the hepatitis B virus (HBV). HBV can cause:

Acute (short-term) illness. This can lead to:

- loss of appetite
- diarrhea and vomiting
- tiredness
- jaundice (yellow skin or eyes)
- pain in muscles, joints, and stomach

Acute illness is more common among adults.

Children who become infected usually do not have acute illness.

Chronic (long-term) infection. Some people go on to develop chronic HBV infection. This can be very serious, and often leads to:

- liver damage (cirrhosis)
- liver cancer
- death

Chronic infection is more common among infants and children than among adults. People who are infected can spread HBV to others, even if they don't appear sick.

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- In 2005, about 51,000 people became infected with hepatitis B.
 - About 1.25 million people in the United States have chronic HBV infection.
 - Each year about 3,000 to 5,000 people die from cirrhosis or liver cancer caused by HBV.
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Hepatitis B virus is spread through contact with the blood or other body fluids of an infected person. A person can become infected by:

- contact with a mother's blood and body fluids at the time of birth;
- contact with blood and body fluids through breaks in the skin such as bites, cuts, or sores;
- contact with objects that could have blood or body fluids on them such as toothbrushes or razors;
- having unprotected sex with an infected person;
- sharing needles when injecting drugs;
- being stuck with a used needle on the job.

2 Hepatitis B vaccine: Why get vaccinated?

Hepatitis B vaccine can prevent hepatitis B, and the serious consequences of HBV infection, including liver cancer and cirrhosis.

Routine hepatitis B vaccination of U.S. children began in 1991. Since then, the reported incidence of acute hepatitis B among children and adolescents has dropped by more than 95% – and by 75% in all age groups.

Hepatitis B vaccine is made from a part of the hepatitis B virus. It cannot cause HBV infection.

Hepatitis B vaccine is usually given as a **series of 3 or 4 shots**. This vaccine series gives long-term protection from HBV infection, possibly lifelong.

3 Who should get hepatitis B vaccine and when?

Children and Adolescents

- All children should get their first dose of hepatitis B vaccine **at birth** and should have completed the vaccine series by 6-18 months of age.
- Children and adolescents through 18 years of age who did not get the vaccine when they were younger should also be vaccinated.

Adults

- All unvaccinated adults **at risk for HBV infection** should be vaccinated. This includes:
 - sex partners of people infected with HBV,
 - men who have sex with men,
 - people who inject street drugs,
 - people with more than one sex partner,
 - people with chronic liver or kidney disease,
 - people with jobs that expose them to human blood,
 - household contacts of people infected with HBV,
 - residents and staff in institutions for the developmentally disabled,
 - kidney dialysis patients,

- people who travel to countries where hepatitis B is common,
- people with HIV infection.

- Anyone else who wants to be protected from HBV infection may be vaccinated.

4 Who should NOT get hepatitis B vaccine?

- Anyone with a life-threatening allergy to **baker's yeast**, or to **any other component of the vaccine**, should not get hepatitis B vaccine. Tell your provider if you have any severe allergies.
- Anyone who has had a life-threatening allergic reaction to a **previous dose of hepatitis B vaccine** should not get another dose.
- Anyone who is **moderately or severely ill** when a dose of vaccine is scheduled should probably wait until they recover before getting the vaccine.

Your provider can give you more information about these precautions.

Pregnant women who need protection from HBV infection may be vaccinated.

5 Hepatitis B vaccine risks

Hepatitis B is a very safe vaccine. Most people do not have any problems with it.

The following **mild problems** have been reported:

- Soreness where the shot was given (up to about 1 person in 4).
- Temperature of 99.9°F or higher (up to about 1 person in 15).

Severe problems are extremely rare. Severe allergic reactions are believed to occur about once in 1.1 million doses.

A vaccine, like any medicine, *could* cause a serious reaction. But the risk of a vaccine causing serious harm, or death, is extremely small. More than 100 million people have gotten hepatitis B vaccine in the United States.

6 What if there is a moderate or severe reaction?

What should I look for?

- Any unusual condition, such as a high fever or behavior changes. Signs of a serious allergic

reaction can include difficulty breathing, hoarseness or wheezing, hives, paleness, weakness, a fast heart beat or dizziness.

What should I do?

- **Call** a doctor, or get the person to a doctor right away.
- **Tell** your doctor what happened, the date and time it happened, and when the vaccination was given.
- **Ask** your doctor, nurse, or health department to report the reaction by filing a Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) form.

Or you can file this report through the VAERS web site at www.vaers.hhs.gov, or by calling 1-800-822-7967.

VAERS does not provide medical advice.

7 The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program

In the event that you or your child has a serious reaction to a vaccine, a federal program has been created to help pay for the care of those who have been harmed.

For details about the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, call 1-800-338-2382 or visit their website at www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation.

8 How can I learn more?

- Ask your doctor or nurse. They can give you the vaccine package insert or suggest other sources of information.
- Call your local or state health department.
- Contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):
 - Call **1-800-232-4636 (1-800-CDC-INFO)**
 - Visit CDC websites at:
 - www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hepatitis
 - www.cdc.gov/vaccines
 - www.cdc.gov/travel



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

Vaccine Information Statement (Interim)
Hepatitis B (7/18/07) 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-26