



***IMPORTANT: If you are a new UO employee in the BBP Program, this form MUST be completed.***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ UO ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you want be immunized for Hepatitis B at this time?** (choose one option below)

*“No, I don’t want the vaccine or have received it in the past.”*

**Please sign and date below indicating that you understand the following:**

I understand that due to my occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials I may be at risk of acquiring Hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection. I have been given the opportunity to be vaccinated with hepatitis B vaccine, at no charge to myself. However, I decline Hepatitis B vaccination at this time. I understand that by declining this vaccine, I continue to be at risk of acquiring Hepatitis B, a serious disease. If in the future I continue to have occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials and I want to be vaccinated with Hepatitis B vaccine, I can receive the vaccination series at no cost to me.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employee Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*“Yes, I want to receive the vaccine.”*

**Please provide the requested information below:**

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

PI/Supervisor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Index (account code) for Health Center billing: \_\_\_\_\_ (required)

Employee phone number for scheduling appointment: \_\_\_\_\_



### ***WHAT IS HEPATITIS B?***

Hepatitis B is an infection of the liver caused by the hepatitis B virus (HBV). The HBV is one of several types of viruses (infections) that can cause hepatitis. There is a vaccine that will prevent HBV infection.

Hepatitis B virus infection may occur in two phases. The acute phase occurs just after a person becomes infected, and can last from a few weeks to several months. Some people recover after the acute phase, but others remain infected for the rest of their lives. They go into the chronic phase and become "chronic carriers." The virus remains in their liver and blood.

Acute hepatitis B usually begins with symptoms such as loss of appetite, extreme tiredness, nausea, vomiting, and stomach pain. Dark urine and jaundice (yellow eyes and skin) are also common and skin rashes and joint pain can occur. Over half of the people who become infected with HBV never become sick, but some may later have long-term liver disease from their HBV infection.

HBV is passed from one person to another in blood or certain body secretions. In occupational settings, infection can occur through several routes:

- Puncture or cut with contaminated sharp object (needle, broken glass)
- Contact with broken skin (cut, hangnail, dermatitis)
- Contact with mucous membranes of eyes, nose, mouth

Those people infected with HBV who become "chronic carriers" can spread the infection to others throughout their lifetime. They can also develop long-term liver disease such as cirrhosis (which destroys the liver) or liver cancer.

### ***HEPATITIS B VACCINE***

Hepatitis B vaccine is given by injection. Three doses, given on three different dates are needed for full protection. Exactly when these three doses are given can vary. Infants can get the vaccine at the same time as other shots, or during regular visits for well child care. Your doctor or nurse will tell you when the three shots should be given.

The hepatitis B vaccine can prevent hepatitis B. Booster doses are not currently recommended.

### ***WHO SHOULD GET HEPATITIS B VACCINE?***

Hepatitis B vaccine is recommended for adolescents and adults at high risk of getting HBV infection. In the occupational setting, this includes people who are exposed to blood or blood products in their work (health care workers or emergency care responders, for instance). A list of job classifications in which employees may be exposed to bloodborne pathogens at University of Oregon can be found in UO's Exposure Determination Table within the Exposure Control Plan.

Hepatitis B vaccine is also recommended for people who have been exposed to HBV. This includes people who have never been vaccinated for hepatitis B, and who: (1) have an accident in which blood containing HBV enters their body through the skin or mucous membrane; or, (2) have sexual contact with someone with acute hepatitis B. In some cases, hepatitis B vaccine should be started at the same time as treatment with HBIG.