



## Hepatitis B Notification Form

Please complete this form regarding Hepatitis B.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have received all three (3) vaccinations for Hepatitis B.

Date of third series injection, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I have not been vaccinated for Hepatitis B and do not wish to receive the vaccination.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have not been vaccinated for Hepatitis B but would like to begin vaccinations.

**\*No records are needed!**

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 understand that NPORT encourages all clinicians to become vaccinated for Hepatitis B. I have been given the opportunity to be vaccinated with Hepatitis B vaccine. 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, that I may revise my decision, and may want to be vaccinated with Hepatitis B vaccine.

I have read and understand NPORT's Hepatitis B Policy/Procedures.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employee Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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



# Hepatitis B - Fact Sheet

## What is hepatitis B?

Hepatitis B is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis B virus.

## How is hepatitis B spread (transmitted)?

Transmission occurs when blood or body fluids from an infected person enters the body of an uninfected or unvaccinated person. HBV can be spread through sexual activity, sharing needles or "works" when "shooting" drugs, through workplace needle sticks or sharps injuries, or from an infected mother to her baby during birth.

## What are the signs and symptoms?

About 30% of persons have no signs or symptoms. Signs and symptoms are less common in children than adults. Some people experience abdominal pain, loss of appetite, fatigue, nausea and vomiting, dark urine, joint pain and jaundice (yellowing of the skin and the whites of the eyes).

## How soon do symptoms appear?

Usually within 60-90 days after infection but can be as short as 2 weeks and as long as 6 months.

## What are the long-term effects?

Chronic infection leads to liver disease. Chronic infection occurs in 90% of infants infected at birth, 30% of children infected at age 1-5, and in 6% of persons infected after 5 years of age. Death from chronic liver disease or liver cancer occurs in 15-25% of chronically infected people.

## How long is a person able to spread hepatitis B?

Hepatitis B is present before symptoms appear and while symptoms are present. Chronically infected persons carry the virus indefinitely.

## How is hepatitis B diagnosed?

Only doctors can diagnose hepatitis B. Diagnosis is based on a laboratory test for hepatitis B.

## What is the treatment for hepatitis B?

People with hepatitis B need to be evaluated by their doctor. Adefovir dipivoxil, alpha interferon and lamivudine are three drugs licensed for the treatment of persons with chronic hepatitis B. Drinking alcohol can make liver disease worse.

## How can hepatitis B be prevented?

- People with hepatitis B should remain aware that their blood and some other body fluids contain the virus.
- Hepatitis B vaccine is the best protection. All children 0-18 years of age should be vaccinated plus those in high-risk groups (injection drug users, men who have sex with men, sex or household contacts of a chronically infected person, health care and public safety workers, hemodialysis patients).
- Use condoms every time when having sex.
- Pregnant women should be tested for hepatitis B. Infants born to hepatitis B-infected mothers should receive hepatitis B immune globulin and vaccine within 12 hours after birth.
- Do not shoot drugs. If you do, get vaccinated and never share needles or works.
- Do not share toothbrushes, razors, or other personal care items.
- If you are a health care worker, get vaccinated against hepatitis B. Always follow barrier precautions.
- If you have or had hepatitis B, do not donate blood, organs, or tissues.
- Consider the risks if you are thinking about getting a tattoo or body piercing.

**Please complete reverse side!**