



University of
BRISTOL

Safety and Health Services

Occupational Health Service

Immunisations – Hepatitis B



bristol.ac.uk/safety/occupational-health



Immunisations – Hepatitis B

What is it?

Hepatitis B is a serious infection of the liver, caused by a virus, and spread through contaminated blood and blood-stained bodily fluids.

Who is at risk?

- Healthcare professionals including nurses, doctors, and dentists.
- Students working/training to be dentists, doctors, and social workers.
- Laboratory staff working with human blood/blood products or DNA.
- Other staff deemed to be at risk following workplace risk assessments.

Hepatitis B immunisation schedule

Three doses of the vaccine are given over a six-month period. These are administered on month zero, month one and month six, followed by a blood test to check there was a successful response to the vaccination. A single booster is given after five years.

Reduce the risk

- Follow local policies and guidance for specific areas.
- Adhere to universal precautions in all relevant areas such as gloves, gown, goggles.
- Keep cuts or broken skin covered.
- Take up the offer of immunisation.
- Follow the Contamination Incident Protocol in the event of an accidental exposure to blood or blood-stained bodily fluids.

Contamination injuries

Call the needlestick hotline: **(0117) 342 3400**
Open Mondays to Thursdays 8am-5pm and
Fridays **8am-4:30pm** to speak directly to an
Occupational Health Practitioner.

If you call out of hours, call and listen to the
voice message for instructions.