



Hepatitis B Vaccination

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

I have completed BBP Training. How do I get my Hepatitis B shots?

You may drop in (no appointment needed) to either CSC HOHS clinic at 200W or 1979 Snyder during the following hours:

Main Clinic: 1979 Snyder

- M-F 8:00am-3:00pm

200W Clinic:

- M-F 8:00am-3:00pm and 5:00pm-10:00pm
- Saturday 8:00am-3:00pm

Your EJTA must be updated to include the Bloodborne Pathogen Medical Surveillance Program. The front desk at CSC HOHS will verify your updated EJTA.

Even if your instructor's signature is on your training certificate, you will not be able to receive your shot if your manager has not updated your EJTA in the system.

You will need to contact your manager to complete the update.

Is there a time limit between my training class and when I get my first shot?

No. You may go to CSC HOHS anytime during your employment at Hanford to receive your first shot. You must provide the signed training certificate to CSC HOHS at that time.

How will I know when to get the second and third shots in the series?

The second shot is given one month after the first; the third shot six months after the first. CSC HOHS will notify you when it is time to receive the next shot in the series. You do not need an appointment or any paperwork for the second and third shots.

How long will the Hepatitis B vaccine be effective?

The three-shot series is effective for life. At this time, a booster shot is not recommended.

I have heard there is a blood test I can have to determine if the shots have provided protection from Hepatitis B. Is this true?

Yes. It's call a Hepatitis B titer. When you receive the Hepatitis B shots, your immune system builds up antibodies. Your blood can be tested for the presence of these antibodies. The test is somewhat unreliable, false low titers are not uncommon. The best time to have the test is 30-60 days after your third hepatitis shot. CSC HOHS will send you a reminder when the blood test is available. The test will not be done later than 60 days after your last shot. Therefore, if you choose to have the test, you may come into CSC HOHS within 60 days of your last shot without an appointment. The CSC HOHS medical provider will give you the results of your test and any further recommendations.

Does the Hepatitis B vaccine help protect against Hepatitis A or Hepatitis C?

No. The Hepatitis B vaccine is specific for Hepatitis B. There is no vaccine at this time for Hepatitis C. There is a separate vaccine series for Hepatitis A, which is transmitted through food or water contaminated by feces of an infected person. Your medical provider can answer any questions about Hepatitis A and the vaccine.

I've had two Hepatitis B shots several years ago. Do I need to start the series over?

No. If you've had one or two shots, the next shot in the series is given regardless of the time between shots. If you cannot provide documentation for shots received outside of Hanford, you may be advised to have the complete three-shot series. Check with the CSC HOHS medical provider at the time you receive your shot for information and recommendations.

If I have not had the Hepatitis B shots in the past, and I'm exposed to blood, should I get the shots then?

Yes. After an exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials (OPIM), it is recommended to start the Hepatitis B series along with another shot called immune globulin, which boosts your immune system. For optimum protection, this treatment should begin within 24 hours of the exposure, but can be started within seven days.

How do I get the Hepatitis B vaccination series if I signed a declination form in the past?

Take your signed training completion certificate to CSC HOHS. If you do not have the certificate, contact your training instructor for another one. Contact your manager to update your EJTA to include the Bloodborne Pathogen Medical Surveillance Program. You do not need an appointment.