

School of Dentistry



School of Dentistry Immunization Policy Faculty, Staff, Students and Volunteers

Health-care workers are at risk for exposure to and possible transmission of vaccine-preventable communicable diseases because of their contact with patients or infective material from patients. Maintenance of immunity to vaccine-preventable diseases is therefore an essential part of prevention and infection control. The Employee Health clinic (EHC) and Immunization Clinic located at Hall Health Primary Care Center follow recommendations for health care workers from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and OSHA/WISHA occupational health mandates. All faculty, staff and visitors/observers who are in laboratories or dental clinics and who thereby may be at risk of exposure to blood borne pathogens must demonstrate compliance with requirements for the following: measles (rubeola), mumps, rubella, Hepatitis B, tetanus-diphtheria, varicella (chicken pox), and tuberculosis screening. Patient contact may not begin until documentation of compliance with these requirements takes place.

Measles	Two vaccine doses, a positive antibody titer, or documented physician diagnosed history of the disease. The doses must have been received after 12 months of age and at least one month apart. They must have been given after 1/1/68 and not given with immune globulin. Vaccination will be considered for persons born before 1/1/57 who lack proof of immunity.
Mumps	Two doses of MMR vaccine, a positive antibody titer, or history of the disease. Those born before 1/1/57 can be considered immune.
Rubella	Proof of one immunization or a positive antibody titer. Those born before 1/1/57, except women who can become pregnant, can be considered immune.
Hepatitis B	Evidence of immunity is required. The immunization series consists of three doses of vaccine. <i>The first injection must be administered before staff, faculty or volunteers enter the clinic.</i> In addition, an antibody titer is required after completion of the series to prove immunity.
Tetanus-diphtheria	A basic childhood series and booster within the last ten years.
Varicella (Chicken Pox)	History of the disease is usually sufficient. Those lacking a reliable history of varicella or serologic evidence of immunity receive a series of two immunizations given at least one month apart.
TB	Evidence of two PPD tests within the year prior to employment is required; otherwise a 2-step PPD will be done. History of BCG is not a contraindication to PPD testing. If you have had a <i>documented</i> positive TB skin test in the past, records specifying the test, a chest x-ray report, and details of prescribed medication are needed. Annual PPD skin testing (or symptom review for those not being tested) is required. Patient contact is not allowed unless documentation of this annual TB screening takes place.
Influenza (optional)	Annual flu shots are recommended for health care workers who have contact with patient at high risk for influenza or its complications, those who work in chronic care facilities, and those with high risk medical conditions.