

APPENDIX C

HEPATITIS B VACCINE



Hepatitis B Vaccination (New Hires/Employees that will or may have Occupational Exposure)

The OSHA/Cal OSHA standard covering bloodborne pathogens requires employers to offer the Hepatitis B vaccination free of charge to all employees that will (Category A), or may have, (Category B), exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials as part of their job duties. (Exception: Designated first aid providers who have occupational exposure are not required to be offered pre-exposure hepatitis B vaccine if the following conditions exist: Any first aid rendered by such persons is rendered only as a collateral duty responding solely to injuries resulting from workplace incidents, generally at the location where the incident occurred. This exception does not apply to designated first aid providers who render assistance on a regular basis, for example, at a first aid station, clinic, dispensary, or other location where injured employees routinely go for such assistance, and emergency or public safety personnel who are expected to render first aid in the course of their work.).

The vaccine series consists of three shots in the arm given over a six-month period. The vaccine does not contain a live virus, so no one can catch hepatitis from the vaccination. The vaccine is very safe and effective and is prepared from recombinant yeast cultures rather than human blood. Over 2 million health care workers have already been vaccinated. More than 90 percent of the people who receive the vaccine develop immunity. A blood test can show whether a person has become immune. Those who show immunity in the blood test are 100 percent protected against HBV infection for several years.

An employee that is offered the pre-exposure Hepatitis B vaccination, and does not want to receive the vaccine must sign a form declining the vaccine. Someone who initially declines vaccination may choose to receive it at a later date if still working for the County in a job with exposure to infectious materials.

The following employee has potential occupational exposure to blood or other infectious materials.

_____	_____
Name of Employee	Classification Title
	Circle Exposure Category A B

Disposition:

- _____ Vaccine Series started.
- _____ Vaccine declined. Declination form signed.
- _____ Employee previously received complete vaccine series.
- _____ Antibody testing has revealed that the employee has immunity against Hepatitis B.
- _____ Vaccine is contraindicated for medical reasons.
- _____ Vaccine series complete.

_____	_____
Signature of Health Care Professional	Date