

## Occupational Health Service

### Immunisation information

In accordance with current Department of Health guidance, students are expected to protect both themselves and others from serious communicable diseases through appropriate immunisation. Where effective vaccines exist, students are strongly advised to ensure that their immunisation status is up to date.

This document outlines the recommended vaccinations for students undertaking programmes in the following areas.

### Medical, Dental & Dental Hygiene Students

#### **Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR)**

All students must provide documented evidence of immunity to measles and rubella. Acceptable evidence includes:

- A record of two documented doses of the MMR vaccine, or
- Serological evidence of immunity (laboratory-confirmed positive measles and rubella IgG).

A past history of these illnesses alone is not considered sufficient evidence of immunity.

#### **Hepatitis B**

Students are required to follow the standard Hepatitis B vaccination schedule, comprising doses administered at 0, 1 and 6 months.

Students must provide a copy of their immunisation record as evidence of vaccination or confirmed immunity. Any outstanding doses will be arranged at the commencement of the programme.

Post vaccination testing: An anti-HBs antibody test should be undertaken approximately eight weeks after the third dose. A result of >100 mIU/ml indicates satisfactory immunity.

#### **Varicella Zoster (VZV) – Chickenpox**

A reliable history of chickenpox infection is accepted as evidence of immunity for individuals raised in temperate climates. Students originating from tropical climates may be required to undergo serological testing to confirm immunity status.

- VZV IgG positive: indicates adequate immunity
- VZV IgG negative: requires two doses of the VZV vaccine

Vaccination for students identified as non-immune will be provided at the commencement of the programme.

### Veterinary Students

#### **Diphtheria Tetanus and Polio**

Most students will have completed a full primary DTP vaccination course (five doses) prior to leaving school, with the final dose administered within the past ten years. Students should ensure their immunisations are up to date and provide a copy of their immunisation record as evidence.

Students who have not completed the full vaccination course are strongly advised to contact their GP surgery before commencing the programme to arrange any outstanding vaccinations.

**In accordance with national guidance, additional screening tests will be undertaken by the Occupational Health Service on commencement of the course if clinically indicated.**