



**Middle Tennessee State University  
School of Nursing  
Hepatitis B Waiver**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Last First Middle*

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Month/Day/Year*

**If you have just begun the series**, a titer result will be required as soon as it is possible.  
*--The Hepatitis B requirement cannot be approved unless you provide documentation of a positive titer result OR **one** of the following statements is initialed and this form is signed and dated by your and your **healthcare provider**.*

Please initial if you do not seroconvert to Hepatitis B:

\_\_\_\_ I hereby certify that I have read this information and **I understand that by not having positive immunity to Hepatitis B I am at risk for contracting the disease.**

Please initial if you do not wish to have the Hepatitis B series:

\_\_\_\_ I certify that I have discussed the risks of declining the Hepatitis B vaccination series with my healthcare provider and **I understand that by not having positive immunity to Hepatitis B I am at risk for contracting the disease.**

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Healthcare Provider signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Information on the Hepatitis B Vaccine [Recombinant]

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## **Hepatitis**

Hepatitis is a serious viral infection of the liver. The most severe form of Hepatitis is caused by a virus known as Hepatitis B. Every year 18,000 health care workers in America contract Hepatitis B. Most patients infected with Hepatitis B have no symptoms but 25% will develop a prolonged illness and some may die from the illness.

Hepatitis b can be spread to health care workers by accidental needle stick or other exposures to blood or body fluids of Hepatitis b infected patients. Your risk of contracting Hepatitis B from a needle stick with a Hepatitis B contaminated needle is 35-40%. The risk from a splash to your eyes, mouth, or skin with Hepatitis infected blood or body fluid is much less. There is no known cure once a patient is infected, but a vaccine is available which can effectively prevent Hepatitis B infection even if you are accidentally exposed to Hepatitis B infected blood or body fluids.

Health care workers are at a high risk of acquiring Hepatitis B because of their frequent contact with blood and/or other infectious materials. It is strongly recommended that you become vaccinated with Hepatitis B vaccine if you could reasonably anticipate any occupational exposure to blood and/or other infectious materials in accordance with the recommendations by the CDC (Center for Disease Control) and in compliance with the OSHA Bloodborne Pathogen Standard issued 12- 2-91, governing exposure to bloodborne pathogens.

## **Hepatitis B Vaccine**

Hepatitis B Vaccine [Recombinant] is a non-infectious Recombinant DNA Hepatitis B Vaccine. It is approved by the FDA to be given 3 **intramuscular** doses of 1 cc at time), 1 month and 6 months. Approximately **90%** of persons vaccinated by this route will develop antibodies to Hepatitis B and will be protected.

## **Adverse Reactions to Hepatitis B Vaccine**

Hepatitis B Vaccine [Recombinant] is generally well tolerated. During clinical studies involving over 10,000 individuals distributed over all age groups, no serious adverse reactions attributable to vaccine administration were reported. As with any vaccine, however, it is possible that expanded commercial use of the vaccine could reveal rare adverse reactions not observed in clinical studies. The most frequently reported adverse reactions were IM injection-site soreness, fatigue, induration, erythema, swelling, fever, headache, and dizziness. Other more serious adverse reactions have occurred infrequently. If you have any questions about Hepatitis B Vaccine [Recombinant] please ask an Employee Health Service health care provider prior to deciding whether to accept the vaccine.

## **Contraindications**

Hypersensitivity to yeast or any other component (e.g. thimerosal) of the vaccine is a contraindication for use of the vaccine.

## **Warnings**

Patients experiencing hypersensitivity after a Hepatitis B Vaccine [Recombinant] injection IM should not receive further injections of Hepatitis B Vaccine [Recombinant] (see Contraindications).

Hepatitis B has a long incubation period. Hepatitis B vaccination may not prevent Hepatitis B infection in individuals who have an unrecognized Hepatitis B infection at the time of vaccine and do not develop immunity to the Hepatitis B Virus.

## **Pregnancy**

Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted with Hepatitis B Vaccine [Recombinant]. It is also not known whether Hepatitis B Vaccine [Recombinant] can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman or can affect reproduction capacity. Hepatitis B Vaccine [Recombinant] should be given to a pregnant woman only if clearly needed.

## **Nursing Mothers**

It is known whether Hepatitis B Vaccine [Recombinant] is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when Hepatitis Vaccine [Recombinant] is administered to a nursing woman.