

Environment, Health and Safety

Biosafety Update

Mandatory Requirement: Online Hepatitis B Vaccination/Declination Survey

Revised 04/26/2017



UCSF

Working in labs that use human materials entails the risk of exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens (BBP) including Hepatitis B. Hepatitis B has been one of the most frequently occurring laboratory-associated infections, and laboratory workers are recognized as a high-risk group for acquiring such infections.

Hepatitis B is a contagious liver disease caused by the Hepatitis B virus. Symptoms range from a mild illness lasting a few weeks to a serious, lifelong illness.

Vaccination: Hepatitis B infection is preventable via an effective vaccination. Therefore, the California OSHA BBP Standard ([CCR, Title 8, Section 5193](#)) requires that the Hepatitis B immunization must be offered **free of charge** to any employee with potential BBP exposure, and **documentation of the vaccination or declination must be recorded.**

A new online Hepatitis B survey has been developed to improve employees' access to the Hepatitis B vaccination, antibody titer testing, and declination statement. The survey will also provide UCSF and its laboratories an improved method for documenting the compliance with the California OSHA BBP Standard.

With this new system, all employees with potential BBP exposure must complete the online questionnaire *immediately* to meet the UCSF mandatory requirement, even if they have submitted a Hepatitis B Vaccination or Declaration form in the past.

Please complete the following actions:

- Offer the Hepatitis B vaccination free of charge to all employees with potential for BBP exposure.
- **Each employee** must complete the "Hepatitis B Vaccination/Declination Survey" found at <https://ohshepbsurvey.ucsf.edu>.
- Contact the UCSF Public Health Office (PublicHealthOffice@ucsf.edu) for more information.