

Hepatitis B Information Sheet for Non-Response to Vaccination

Non-response to Hep B Vaccination

A non-responder is a person without HBV infection who has a documented history of an age-appropriate primary course of hepatitis B vaccine, but without a current anti-HBs level.

Students who are non-responders after being given the booster (4th dose) (and in whom HBV infection has been excluded) should have a 2 further doses of Hepatitis B vaccine at monthly intervals and be re-tested for anti-HBs levels at least 4 weeks after the last dose. The booster (4th dose) that was received can be counted as the 1st of the 3 repeat doses, as recommended for non-responders.

Important: A non-response to vaccination will not prevent a student from attending clinical placement. Additional precautions will be discussed to minimise risk.

Formal Steps for Non-Response Students

| Steps | Action |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Ensure you meet the requirements above to confirm your non-response status |
| 2 | Complete UC Consent for the Release of Immunisation Records form and the ACT Health Consent form |
| 3 | Placement Team will provide student infection status to placement site and seek approval |
| 4 | Professional Practice Convenor will arrange a meeting with the student prior to first clinical placement to discuss risk management |
| 5 | Student commences clinical placement |

Important Notes

1. Ensure you undertake appropriate infection control and WHS practice to reduce risk of occupational exposure
2. More often than not, demonstrating professional practice in managing infection control within the scope of practice at all times by a student is enough to ensure they are minimising risk to themselves and others