

## Precautions against Infectious Disease

### CAO applicants to Occupational Therapy 2015-2016

Dear Applicant to Occupational Therapy,

The Discipline of Occupational Therapy, TCD requests all students on the Occupational Therapy degree course (including international, mature and advanced entrants students) to provide evidence of absence of infection for the following diseases before commencing clinical placement;

- 1) Hepatitis B
- 2) Hepatitis C
- 3) Pulmonary Tuberculosis
- 4) Chickenpox
- 5) Measles
- 6) Mumps
- 7) Rubella

#### **Process**

In order to fulfil requirements of the Discipline of Occupational Therapy, students must complete the following steps prior to registration:

1. Attend for infectious diseases pre-screen
2. Undergo an accelerated course of Hepatitis B vaccinations (details of both are listed below)

#### **Screening**

Students are requested to attend for screening at Trinity College Health Service.

Clinics will be run on the following dates:

24<sup>th</sup> August-4<sup>th</sup> September

09:00-12:00 daily

**Please note: Appointment must be booked prior to attending clinic on:**

**(01) 8961556/1591**

## **Hepatitis B Vaccinations**

Students must attend for an accelerated course of Hepatitis B vaccinations prior to commencing practice education placement. These vaccinations will be provided at TCD College Health on specified dates in October-December 2015. Failure to attend for vaccination on these dates will result in students being prohibited from completing placement.

## **Cost**

The overall cost of infectious diseases screening + Hepatitis B vaccinations is **€200**. All costs must be met by the student. Receipts must be retained as proof of payment.

This fee includes the following services:

- Blood sample(s) required for screening.
- Transportation and retrieval from Blood laboratory.
- All necessary follow-up vaccinations, to include full MMR and Mantoux testing, where necessary for Tuberculosis & all other tests if required for infectious diseases listed.
- Result interpretation/record on file in Trinity College Health Service.
- The Trinity College Health Service will liaise with the Discipline of Occupational Therapy regarding results.
- Cost for Varicella (chicken pox) vaccine will be an additional €70.00 per injection should this be necessary.
- This testing will be **by appointment only** with the nurse. Students must contact the College Health Centre at 01 8961556/1591 stating that they require pre-registration blood tests.
- Payment can be made by cash, cheque (made payable to College Health Service, TCD) or by credit/debit card.

Students are also permitted to attend their own GP for screening and vaccination. However the paperwork provided in the following pages **must** be completed immediately and before registration. This includes the following:

- Vaccination screening record (pages 10-12)
- Immunity status (page 13)

This paperwork must be signed and returned to the Practice Education Co-ordinator in the Discipline of Occupational Therapy before you can proceed to register.

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## **Introduction**

Precautions against infectious diseases are governed by Blood Borne Viruses (BBV) regulations which have been agreed by the Medical Schools of Ireland and represent the consensus view of the Council of Deans of Faculties of Medical Schools in Ireland.

With regard to the transmission of infectious diseases, the School of Occupational Therapy at TCD strikes a balance between our pastoral responsibility to individual students applying for entry and our overriding duty of care to the public with whom Occupational Therapy students are in close contact. In this context, the School is obliged to ensure that reasonable and appropriate measures are taken not only to safeguard the students and their colleagues, but also the patients and members of the public.

All health care professionals have a duty of care to the public. In the interests of reducing the risk of the transmission of infectious diseases from patients to students, or student to patient, all new entrants must attend their regular medical practitioner or the Student Health Service prior to registration to certify their vaccination status or immunity to tuberculosis, measles, mumps, rubella and chickenpox. In addition, students must produce evidence of their Hepatitis B and C status and where appropriate confirmation that they do not have active disease. Students who are Hepatitis B negative but not already deemed to be immune to Hepatitis B will be required to undergo a course of vaccination.

Influenza occurs seasonally and students may be offered vaccination through the individual teaching hospitals at these times, it is advisable that students obtain a flu vaccination where possible.

## VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS

All students (including international, mature and advanced entry students) on the Occupational Therapy degree programme must provide the Discipline of Occupational Therapy with evidence of satisfactory immunity or appropriate blood results to the following infectious disease as soon as you receive your orientation pack.

- 1) **Hepatitis B (both Surface and Core results are mandatory)**
- 2) **Hepatitis C**
- 3) **Pulmonary Tuberculosis**
- 4) **Chickenpox**
- 5) **Measles**
- 6) **Mumps**
- 7) **Rubella**

### How can students meet these requirements?

Only results from blood samples taken within the **six months** prior to August 2015 will be considered. Immediately on receipt of an offer of a place to study Occupational Therapy at TCD, students should make an appointment with their GP/Medical Practitioner to request screening for Hep B and Hep C infection. Blood laboratory/Student Consent Form: Students must sign the 'Blood Laboratory/Student Consent' Form (Page 12 of this document).

Once results are received and reviewed by your GP, request your GP to complete **1) Student Immunisation Record** regarding your vaccination history to date of Pulmonary TB, Chickenpox, Measles, Mumps and Rubella (pages 14, 15 & 16) and **2) Immunity Status Form (page 17)**. Both of these documents must be completed and sent to:

**Teresa Foley**

**Practice Education Co-ordinator, Discipline of Occupational Therapy**

**Trinity Centre for Health Sciences, James' Street, Dublin 8.**

Please read and if necessary give your GP/Medical Practitioner the summary list and information on page 8 & 9 of this document.

Following registration and before commencing clinical contact with patients, students will be required to undergo a Hep B course of vaccination.

Costs must be met by the student.

**Please note: Incomplete documentation will not be accepted. Students will only be permitted to go on practice education placements when all documentation has been returned in full to the PEC.**

## General Information Regarding Each Requirement

### 1) Hepatitis B (Core & Surface)

### 2) Hepatitis C

Please note: Students must request the **accelerated** course of Hepatitis B vaccinations. This consists of three injections, one month apart, followed by a booster injection >six weeks afterwards.

- If attending TCD College Health: Cost of booster injection is additional and must be met by the student
- If attending own GP: Please request accelerated course of Hep B vaccinations

Students must return satisfactory proof that they are not currently infected with Hepatitis B or C. Students must provide results for both Hep B core and Hep B surface – there are no exceptions to this. **Students whom do not provide these results will have their documentation returned to them and will not be allowed to go on placement.** If a positive Hepatitis C antibody test is returned a negative PCR test for Hepatitis C RNA will be required. **Only results from a blood sample taken in the last 6 months are acceptable.**

### Hepatitis B Vaccination

During the first year of study and before commencing clinical contact with patients, students will be requested to undergo Hepatitis B vaccination. The course of vaccination is offered by the Discipline of Occupational Therapy and requires a course of three injections.

**NB** When the course of vaccinations are completed a **blood titre level** needs be checked to ensure appropriate levels of immunity have been achieved. Depending on the results of the titre, students may be required to complete a booster series of vaccinations. **All costs must be met by the student.**



**A record of your vaccination history to date regarding Pulmonary TB, Chickenpox, Measles, Mumps and Rubella is required.**

**2) Pulmonary Tuberculosis**

If you have been vaccinated for TB, you will have a 'BCG' scar which the College Health Service or your GP will record. If you do not have a visible scar the College Health Service or your GP will facilitate a Mantoux test (enquire with your GP/Medical Practitioner). If you have difficulty obtaining a Mantoux test or your result is positive then please return a Chest X Ray for review by Trinity College Health or your GP.

**3) Chickenpox      4) Measles   5) Mumps   and   6) Rubella**

If you have not undergone vaccination for Chickenpox, Measles, Mumps and Rubella you must ask your GP to also screen you for proof of previous infection to Chickenpox, Measles, Mumps and Rubella. If you have previously been infected with Chickenpox, Measles, Mumps or Rubella you will have built up a natural immunity. **A blood test is required to confirm this.**

**If your blood results show that you do not have a natural immunity then you must prove that you are not currently infected with Chickenpox, Measles, Mumps or Rubella.**

The Discipline of Occupational Therapy may request that you attend the Trinity College Health Service to undergo vaccination for Chickenpox, Measles, Mumps and Rubella if necessary. **All costs must be met by the student.**

**\*Only test results from blood samples taken in the six months prior to registration are acceptable.**

**Blood Laboratory Form/Student Consent**

Please sign the 'Blood Laboratory/Student Consent' form to allow results to be returned to the Trinity College Health Service or your GP for review (page 12).

Dear Doctor,

The Discipline of Occupational Therapy, Trinity College Dublin request that you screen your patient for the items listed below. Students who do not have these details submitted to the School will not be permitted to go on practice education placements, a core module and requirement of each year of study.

1) Hepatitis B s Antigen (HbsAG)

2) Anti HB Core Antigen (Anti-HBc)

**\* Applications without both results will not be accepted, delaying the student's registration. Hep B Core and Hep B Surface results are mandatory and strictly required.**

3) Negative Hepatitis C antibody test.

4) Complete the immunisation record (provided by your patient) and if necessary screen for Pulmonary Tuberculosis, Chickenpox, Measles, Mumps and Rubella.

In regard to Pulmonary Tuberculosis, please record if the student has a visible BCG-Scar. If not, the student must undergo a Mantoux Test. If a Mantoux test is not possible or the result is found to be positive, a Chest X Ray will be required. If the patient has not been vaccinated against Chickenpox, Measles, Mumps and Rubella please also screen your patient for previous exposure to each of these infections.

Please complete and return **1) Student Immunisation Records (page 14 & 15 )** and complete, **sign and stamp 2) Immunity Declaration Form (page 16)**. **Please return these forms to your patient.**

Students must then return these forms to:

Teresa Foley, Practice Education Co-ordinator (PEC), Trinity Centre for Health Sciences, St. James's Hospital, James's Street, Dublin 8.

If you require any clarification re specific vaccination screening tests please ring College Health Service (01) 8961556/1591 or Teresa Foley at (01) 896 3210.

On receipt of your fully completed documents the PEC will note you are safe to go on placement. Incomplete forms cannot be processed.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

**Student Immunisation Record: To be completed by GP/ Health Centre**  
 (Note: this form does not need to be returned to the Discipline of Occupational Therapy)

**Please complete using BLOCK CAPITALS only.**

Student Surname:	
Student first Name(s):	
Date of Birth:	
Address:	
Contact Phone Number:	
College email address:	

**Hepatitis C Status**

<b>Hepatitis C Antibody Test</b>	<b>Date:</b>	
	<b>Result:</b>	

**Proof of Immunity to Tuberculosis:**

<b>BCG Scar Present? Yes / No</b> (Please circle)	<b>If you do not have a BCG scar, please undergo a Mantoux Test</b>	
	<b>Result:</b>	
	<b>Date:</b>	
	<b>Result:</b>	<b>If you have a positive Mantoux Tuberculin Skin Test but no History of BCG, please undergo a chest x-ray</b>
<b>Chest X-Ray</b>	<b>Date:</b>	
	<b>Result:</b>	

**Immunity to Chickenpox:**

<b>Is there a history of Chickenpox? Yes / No</b> (Please circle)		<b>If there is no history of chickenpox, please provide Titre</b>
	<b>Date:</b>	

	<b>Result:</b>	
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**Immunity to Measles, Mumps and Rubella**

**If you have had any MMR vaccinations, please state the dates below:**

<b>1</b>	<b>Measles Vaccine Titre</b>	<b>Date:</b>	
		<b>Titre:</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>Measles Vaccine Titre</b>	<b>Date:</b>	
		<b>Titre:</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Measles Vaccine Titre</b>	<b>Date:</b>	
		<b>Titre:</b>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Measles Vaccine Titre</b>	<b>Date:</b>	
		<b>Titre:</b>	
<b>5</b>	<b>Measles Vaccine Titre</b>	<b>Date:</b>	
		<b>Titre:</b>	

**Blood Laboratory Consent Form**  
**(to be given to your vaccination provider in relation to blood results)**

Please complete this form fully BLOCK CAPITALS only.

Student Surname:	
Student first Name(s):	
Date of Birth:	
Address:	
Contact Phone Number:	
College email address:	

I hereby consent to the results of my Hepatitis Bs Antigen (HBsAG), Antu-HB Core Antigen (Anti-HBc) and negative Hepatitis C Antibody blood tests being returned to my health care provider (ie. Trinity College Health Centre or my GP) by the blood laboratory. Please specify.

Name and address of health care provider:

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This information will be held as part of my confidential file with my health care provider, and may be consulted by me on request.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Student name)

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

## Student Immunity Status

**Please return this document to the Discipline of Occupation Therapy.**

Please do not return any other documentation relating to your vaccinations.

This letter must be signed, dated and stamped by the GP/ College Health Centre and returned **by the student** to the Practice Education Coordinator at the Discipline of Occupational Therapy.

Student Name:	
Student Number:	
Date:	

**I hereby confirm satisfactory immunity levels to all infectious diseases have been provided for the above student:**

**Please tick the following boxes as appropriate:**

Hep B (HBsAG and Anti-HBc) negative

Hep C Negative

Immunity to Tuberculosis satisfactory

Chickenpox immunity levels within normal range

Measles immunity levels within normal range

Mumps immunity levels within normal range

Rubella immunity levels within normal range

**Doctor's signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Any additional comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**The student must return this fully completed form to:**

Teresa Foley, Practice Education Coordinator, Discipline of Occupational Therapy, Trinity Centre for Health Sciences, James's St, Dublin 8.

Medical Stamp of Trinity College  
Health Centre or GP

