

Advice from University Health Services:

Whether you are just starting your Hepatitis B Series or entering your program with documentation of your first 3 vaccines please keep in mind:

1

Successful completion of your Hepatitis B vaccinations and titer by the deadline of June 1, 2010 **will be only accomplished if you start early, adhere to the dosing schedule and check titers when recommended.**

2

Successful completion of your Hepatitis B vaccination series with a goal of positive serology will take 7 to 15 months for completion. Not all individuals will have a positive titer result after the initial 3 vaccinations.

Did you know...

(Information about Hepatitis B Virus)

- ✓ About 1.25 million people in the U.S. have chronic HBV infection.
- ✓ Each year it is estimated that:
 - 5,000 people, mostly young adults, get infected with HBV
 - More than 11,000 people have to stay in the hospital because of hepatitis B
 - 4,000 to 5,000 people die from chronic hepatitis B

You Should Know...

(Information about Hepatitis B Vaccine and Serology)

- ✓ Hepatitis B vaccine can prevent hepatitis B. It is the first anti-cancer vaccine because it can prevent a form of liver cancer.
- ✓ The Hepatitis B Series and serology take a minimum of 7 months to complete but could take as long as 15 months to complete.
- ✓ People should get 3 doses of hepatitis B vaccine at 0,1, and 6 months. If you miss a dose or get behind schedule, get the next dose as soon as you can. There is no need to start over.
 - Dosing schedule:
 - First Dose: As soon as possible.
 - Second Dose: 1 to 2 months after the first dose
 - Third Dose: 4 to 6 months after the first dose
- ✓ Titer testing should be completed 1-2 months after the third vaccine dose for results to be meaningful. A protective antibody response is 10 or more milliinternational units per milliliter ($\geq 10\text{mIU/mL}$).
- ✓ For health care workers with normal immune status who have demonstrated an anti-HBs titer following vaccination, no further doses of vaccine are needed nor is it necessary to recheck the titer.