

CMHC INFECTION CONTROL POLICY MANUAL	Effective Date: 02/2016	NUMBER: B-14.4 Page <u> 1 </u> of <u> 3 </u>
	Replaces: 02/2015	
	Formulated: 10/90	
PREVENTION OF HEPATITIS B VIRUS (HBV) INFECTION IN TDCJ FACILITIES		

PURPOSE: To provide for protection of TDCJ and Correctional Managed Health Care employees and offender workers who may be at significant risk for HBV infection in the workplace.

POLICY:

- I. TDCJ\Contract Employees. During orientation, information regarding Hepatitis B Virus infection in the workplace will be made available to all workers who are in positions authorized to receive hazardous duty pay. Such employees are those whose job duties regularly bring them into face-to-face interaction with offenders in settings which may be confrontational. Employee who supervise offenders and may be the provider of first aid in the event of an injury, and employees who provide medical care (including dental and psychiatric care) must also be provided information regarding Hepatitis B Virus infection during orientation. These employees are listed in Attachment D.

- II. TDCJ Offender workers. Offenders who are assigned jobs of medical SSI, laundry worker or hospice aide will be offered HBV immunization following counseling and informed consent by the facility infection control nurse (ICN), if they have not already completed a documented series of vaccination or have proof of immunity. Documentation, schedule and procedure for vaccination will follow Infection Control Manual Policy B-14.07. Refusal by the offender must be documented by having the offender sign a standard treatment refusal or by health care staff making an entry on the refusal form that he/she will not sign. The refusal should indicate the offender was informed that the vaccine was offered because of his job assignment. No incentive shall be given the offender for consenting to immunization; likewise, no disciplinary action shall be taken against an offender for refusal to be immunized or for refusal to sign the refusal form.

- III. Occupational Exposure. For purpose of this policy, occupational exposure means reasonably anticipated skin, eye, mucous membrane, or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials that may result from the performance of an employee's duties. Employees and offenders in job classifications in which all or some workers have occupational exposure to HBV (Attachment D) who have reason to suspect they may have been so exposed while performing normal job duties should report a potential exposure immediately to their supervisor and receive post-exposure counseling, with timely treatment, if indicated, at the facility's medical department.

- IV. General Precautions. Immunization alone will not prevent infection. Personal behavior at work and outside the workplace is a key element in keeping the risk for

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HBV infection minimal. Workers and offenders must use the same precautions for HBV as they would for protection against HIV. Both viruses are transmitted from person to person by similar means.

V. Consent and Release of Records. Prior to beginning the HBV immunization program (a three dose vaccine series), each applicable employee and/or offender worker should:

- A. review and fully understand the benefits and risks of the immunization program; and
- B. receive the Vaccine Information Sheet
<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/index.html>
- C. sign the appropriate statement of informed consent (or refusal, if immunization is refused). The forms in Attachments B, and C will be completed for each employee scheduled to be immunized with HBV vaccine. This information should be entered on the employee health computer screen. For offenders, the standard treatment refusal form, as appropriate, and scan it into the administrative section of the electronic medical record with other consent and refusal forms. For TDCJ employees, the forms must be sent to the Office of Public Health for archiving.

VI. Vaccination Registry. The Department of State Health Services maintains a statewide vaccination registry, ImmTrac. <https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/immtrac.com>

- A. If the employee receiving a vaccine for a bloodborne exposure is a correctional officer or warden, he/she shall be given information about their eligibility for inclusion in ImmTrac (
- B. If the correctional officer wishes to be included in ImmTrac, they must complete the consent form (This form must be forwarded to the Office of Public Health along with the record of the vaccination.
- C. Office of Public Health staff will enter the vaccination history into ImmTrac.
- D. If an employee wishes to withdraw consent for inclusion in ImmTrac they may complete the withdrawal of consent form and submit it to the Department of State Health Services as directed on the form.

VII. Administration of the Vaccine. Administration of the vaccine will follow the manufacturer's instructions. The series of immunizations should begin immediately following potential occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens. Immunization will not be offered to employees or offender workers with documented history of HBV infection or serologic evidence of prior infection or documented series of HBV

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immunization without recommendation from the Office of Public Health.

Reference: Federal Register, Part II, Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, 29 CFR Part 1910.1030 Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens; Final Rule, December 6, 1991.
ACA Standard 4-4387 (New)