



Hepatitis B Vaccine Information

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Hepatitis B Vaccine Dosage Schedule

The hepatitis B vaccine is delivered in a series of three intramuscular injections according to the schedule below. If administration of the series is delayed or interrupted, it should be resumed as soon as possible—rather than restarted.¹

Pregnant and lactating women can receive the hepatitis B vaccine series.²

Hepatitis B Dosage Schedule	
Doses 1 and 2	Given 4 weeks apart
Dose 3	Given 5 months after Dose 2
Booster Dose	Not recommended
Antibody Testing	Antibody response to hepatitis B surface antigen should be performed 1-2 months after the third vaccine dose. ¹ People who do not respond at a level of ≥ 10 milliinternational units per milliliter should repeat the vaccination series including antibody testing. ¹ Non-responders to a second vaccine series should be referred for a medical evaluation of their lack of response. ³

¹ [CDC. Hepatitis B Vaccine: Fact Sheet](#)
(<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hepatitis/b/factvax.htm>)

² Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. [Summary of recommendations for adult immunization](#) (<http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2011b.htm>). June 2002.

³ CDC. [Guideline for infection control in health care personnel](#)
(<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/hip/GUIDE/infectcont98.htm>), 1998.



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Hepatitis B Vaccine Declination

An employee may decline to undergo or complete the [hepatitis B vaccine series](#). In these cases, OSHA requires that the employer obtain and keep on file a declination statement signed by the employee that the vaccination series was offered but that he or she declines to be vaccinated at that time. In addition, the declination must acknowledge that the employee may be exposed to the hepatitis B virus as a result of his or her work duties and that if the employee chooses to be vaccinated at a later date, the employer will provide for such vaccination.

The [mandatory declination form](#) is posted on OSHA's website.

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