

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS CARRYING ON ACTIVITIES AT THE OTTAWA HOSPITAL

The Ontario Hospital Association Communicable Diseases Protocols clearly indicate that it is the responsibility of the educational facility to provide appropriate education, vaccination and follow-up of their students and the maintenance of immunization records. These protocols were developed jointly by the Ontario Hospital Association and the Ontario Medical Association to meet the requirements of the Public Hospitals Act 1990.

The items listed below are part of the requirements for all students and instructors at The Ottawa Hospital.

1. All students carrying on activities at The Ottawa Hospital must demonstrate proof of immunity to measles. If the student has no immunity, the school must arrange for vaccination (MMR vaccine). Proof of immunity to measles is demonstrated by any of the following:
 - the person was born before 1957, or
 - laboratory evidence of immunity, or
 - documentation of vaccination for measles with live virus vaccine on or after the first birthday.
2. All students carrying on activities in patient care areas of The Ottawa Hospital must demonstrate proof of immunity to rubella (German Measles). If the student has no immunity, the school must arrange for vaccination (MMR vaccine). Proof of immunity to rubella (German Measles) is demonstrated by any of the following:
 - laboratory evidence of rubella immunity or
 - documented evidence of immunization with live rubella vaccine on or after first birthday.
3. All students carrying on activities in patient care areas of The Ottawa Hospital must provide information to their educational facility with regard to their history of chicken pox. Proof of immunity to chicken pox is demonstrated by any of the following:
 - Definite history of chicken pox or zoster, or
 - Laboratory evidence of immunity.If the student has no immunity, the school must recommend vaccination.
4. All students must demonstrate freedom from **active** tuberculosis prior to working with patients. TB testing must be done annually thereafter.
 - a) Tuberculosis (TB) mantoux skin test: (a 2-step TB test is required if there is no documented history of a previous TB test.) The amount of induration must be measured in mm. ("positive" or "negative" is not sufficient.)
 - b) A skin test is considered positive if the induration is 10 mm or more. The educational facility must arrange for the follow-up of positive skin tests. Follow-up consists of a chest x-ray (unless contraindicated for medical reasons) and a medical assessment to determine the need for chemoprophylaxis.

Note: A history of BCG vaccination is not a contraindication to tuberculin testing unless there is a history of severe reaction with blistering following the test.
5. The educational facility is responsible for pre-exposure Hepatitis B vaccination and post-exposure follow-up of students as appropriate.
6. The educational facility must arrange for annual influenza vaccination for all students carrying on activities in patient care areas of The Ottawa Hospital. Medical contraindications to influenza vaccine should be documented on the student's record.

The educational facility must provide certification in writing that these requirements have been met for each student prior to the beginning of his / her training period with The Ottawa Hospital. This certification must be provided to the professional service in which the student is training.