1. Overview:
As a student, within specified programs within the Faculty, you will work in environments where you will be exposed to patients/clients with infectious diseases. These environments may put you at risk of contracting these diseases, or passing diseases on to your patients/clients (as well as your colleagues). Certain precautions, such as the use of protective equipment and appropriate hand-washing, can minimise this risk. Some of the diseases are prevented by vaccination, and such vaccination will help protect both you and others.


Where requirements for vaccination are specified by the Program initiating and maintaining currency with the requirements outlined in this document is essential and must be arranged by the student.

2. Definitions
Vaccination: Inoculation in an attempt to produce immunity. Vaccination does not guarantee immunity.

Immunisation: The process or procedure by which immunity is obtained
3. Context

Students must be up-to-date with the standard Australian Immunisation Schedule at all times, through documented evidence of immunity (blood test) and/or current vaccination records. NOTE: Bond University Faculty of Health Sciences & Medicine, Queensland Health and NSW Health do not honour conscientious objection with regard to vaccination. Students who are vaccine “non-responders” (HBsAb <10 mIU/mL after an initial course of vaccination) or those with medical contraindications to vaccination should consult with an Infectious Disease Physician to discuss risks and options prior to undertaking clinical/professional practice placements. Otherwise, you should seek the advice of your general practitioner or the Bond University Health Service to clarify any vaccine issues you may have.

Initiating and maintaining currency with the requirements outlined here is essential for all HSM students and must be arranged by the student.

4. The Procedure

4.1. A physician or registered nurse must complete the HSM Immunisation and Health Record Form on your behalf, (the doctor/nurse must not be a relative or someone with whom you have a close personal relationship). This covers evidence of protection against the following conditions:

- Diphtheria
- Tetanus
- Pertussis (whooping cough)
- Measles
- Mumps
- Rubella
- Hepatitis B [For those who have not completed the full course of vaccinations, the first dose must be received prior to Orientation Week]
- Varicella (Chicken pox)

NOTE: The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) recommends that health care workers (including students) receive annual influenza vaccination. While influenza vaccination is not a requirement of Queensland Health or NSW Health, it is a requirement for students enrolled in the Bond Doctor of Physiotherapy programme.

4.2. Tuberculosis (TB) screening (and vaccination as necessary): A physician or nurse can provide this service but please be aware that the screening test is a two-step process and BOTH steps must be completed within 48 – 78 hours or the test is considered invalid. Detailed information about TB screening and vaccination can be found at the following link: http://www.cdc.gov/tb/topic/testing/default.htm

4.3. As indicated on the HSM Immunisation and Health Record Form, students must be aware of their status with respect to Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).
4.4. Students infected by blood borne viruses (BBV):

Principles of medical ethics and professionalism are foundational to the following:

- The rights of all patients to good standards of practice and care from health care workers and students;
- That students owe a duty of care to patients and are responsible for protecting patients against infection;
- The Queensland Anti-Discrimination Act 1991 prohibits discrimination on the basis of impairment (including the presence of blood borne virus);
- Students who are infected are entitled to confidentiality as afforded to any other patient, however in exceptional circumstances their name may be disclosed in the interest of patient protection.

4.5. Students who are HBeAg positive, HBV DNA positive, HCV RNA positive, or HIV antibody positive (even if virus levels become undetectable on appropriately monitored anti-retroviral therapy) must **not** undertake exposure prone procedures (EPP).

Exposure prone procedures are those characterised by the potential for direct contact between the skin of the health care worker and sharp surgical instruments, needles or sharp tissues (teeth or bone spicules) in body cavities or poorly visualised or confined body sites (including the mouth).


4.5.1. Students must know their status with regards to infection with Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and HIV before undertaking any exposure prone procedures and should repeat testing every twelve months while exposure prone procedures continue to be performed. Students who are unaware of their current infection status (not having tested in the past 12 months) must decline from participating in exposure prone procedures, and should be allowed to do so without questioning. **Students who fail to be aware of their infection status are committing professional misconduct.**

4.5.2. Students who are infected with one of the above named blood borne infections, or

4.5.3. Students who become aware of being infected with Hepatitis B, C or HIV must immediately cease performing exposure prone procedures and seek advice from an expert in the field infectious disease. **Students infected with a BBV who fail to cease performing EPPs are committing professional misconduct.**

5. Related Procedures

- Bond University COR1.09 Compliance Policy
- Bond University Bond University COR4.01 Student Support Policy
- HSM – Management of Allegation of Student Misconduct
6. Related Guidelines & Forms

Refer to the Compliance Guidelines on the Bond University website - https://bond.edu.au/about-bond/academia/faculty-health-sciences-medicine/compliance