

Immunisation Requirements for Nursing and Physiotherapy Students

Once you have received a conditional offer for a place on the Nursing or Physiotherapy programme, you will be sent a pre-course health questionnaire, which you must complete and send to University College Birmingham's Occupational Health Services. They will assess your health and immunisation record and assess your fitness for the programme you have chosen.

Here is information from Occupational Health on the key immunisations required for health students with clinical placements. You must provide evidence that you have been immunised against Rubella, Measles and Tuberculosis and are advised to be immunised against Hepatitis B.

MMR vaccines:

Either documentation of two MMR vaccines or blood test results for Rubella and Measles indicating immunity are required.

If your Rubella or Measles blood test results do not show immunity, documentation of two MMR vaccines will be required. No further blood tests will be required once you have received the two doses of MMR vaccine.

Hepatitis B vaccines:

A Hepatitis B Surface Antigen blood test is required prior to administration of the vaccine to screen for infectivity.

We recommend you follow the standard vaccination schedule, 0, 1 and 6 months. A Hepatitis B Surface antibody blood test will then be required approx. 8 weeks after completion of the course. If you complete an accelerated schedule of vaccination, a fourth dose of vaccine will be required one year after starting the course. Only after this fourth dose is the course complete and at this, we would recommend the Hepatitis B Surface antibody blood test be done.

A Hepatitis B Surface antibody result of >100 miu/ml is evidence of satisfactory immunity.

BCG vaccination:

If a BCG scar is visible, then a history of BCG vaccination is assumed. This is to be documented by your health care professional.

If you have no BCG scar and no documented evidence of BCG vaccine administration, then you should be vaccinated.

A Mantoux skin test will be administered first to rule out prior exposure to Tuberculosis. If you have a negative result from the Mantoux skin test you will require BCG vaccination.

Chicken Pox:

Indicate if you have had chicken pox. If you have not had chicken pox, then a Varicella blood test is to be completed. If the Varicella blood test indicates you are not immune to chicken pox it is recommended you receive the vaccine.

Occupational Health will provide further advice on being vaccinated if you do not have evidence of these.

Without Occupational Health clearance and immunisation cover, you will not be able to attend clinical placements.