Vaccine Preventable Disease Screening for Contractors, Students and Volunteers

Purpose

The purpose of this Health Service Directive is to specify the mandatory vaccine preventable disease (VPD) pre-engagement/pre-commencement screening requirements for Contractors, students and volunteers.

Scope

This Health Service Directive applies to Hospital and Health Services (HHSs).

Principles

- **Patient and staff safety:** workers who are protected against VPDs reduce the risk of acquisition or transmission of VPDs thus reducing the risk of preventable harm.

- **Consistency:** aligning with the recommendations in *The Australian Immunisation Handbook* as updated from time to time.

- **Due care and diligence:** ensuring the requirements of the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (Qld) and *Public Health Act 2005* (Qld) are met.

Outcomes

The outcome of this Health Service Directive is a consistent approach to VPD screening for Contractors, students and volunteers across Hospital and Health Services.

Mandatory requirements

Hospital and Health Services shall comply with the requirements set out in the *Health Service Directive Protocol: Vaccine Preventable Disease Screening for Contractors Students and Volunteers* as in force from time to time.

Related or governing legislation, policy and agreements

- *Hospital and Health Boards Act 2011*

- *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (Qld)

- *Public Health Act 2005* (Qld)
Supporting documents

- Health service directive protocol for vaccine preventable disease screening for Contractors students and volunteers as in force from time to time.
- Guideline: Vaccination of healthcare workers as in force from time to time. (It is recommended that HHSs follow the best practice recommendations contained within this guideline).

Related documents

- *The Australian Immunisation Handbook* as updated from time to time
- Health Service Directive Tuberculosis Control
- Health Service Directive Protocol for the Control of Tuberculosis
- Implementation guide: Healthcare worker vaccination program

For VPD screening and reporting requirements for Queensland Health employees and non-employees engaged by the Department of Health refer to:

- Health Employment Directive No. 01/16 Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPD) requirements, and
- Human Resources Policy B1: Recruitment and Selection

Business area contact

Communicable Diseases and Infection Management
Communicable Diseases Branch
(07) 3328 9728

Review

This Health Service Directive will be reviewed at least every three years.

Date of last review: 01/07/2016
Supersedes: New directive
Approval and Implementation

Directive Custodian
Dr Sonya Bennett
Executive Director
Communicable Diseases Branch

Approval by Chief Executive
Mr Michael Walsh
Director-General
Approval date: 24/6/2016

Issued under section 47 of the Hospital and Health Boards Act 2011

Definitions of terms used in this directive

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<th>Term</th>
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| Contractor | Contractor means a person engaged to perform services (clinical or non-clinical) within Hospital and Health Services as an independent Contractor, including:  
  - contractors and consultants;  
  - locum workers;  
  - visiting medical practitioners;  
  - authorised practitioners of a contracted VMO; and  
  - workers engaged under an arrangement with an employment agency or workforce labour company,  
  but does not include a person who is engaged as a health service employee under the Hospital and Health Boards Act 2011.  
  For the avoidance of doubt, this Health Service Directive will apply to any new Contractors and any Contractor who is currently employed or engaged to perform services within Hospital and Health Services and whose contract is to be renewed. |
| Student   | Any person who is a student of a school, university, TAFE, or other secondary or tertiary education provider undertaking work experience or placement within Hospital and Health Services. |
| Volunteer | An individual who supports Hospital and Health Services either through direct contact with patients/clients or other activities without financial gain or reward. |
Vaccine preventable diseases (VPDs)

For further information, please see *The Australian Immunisation Handbook* as updated from time to time.

### Version Control

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