

Health Service Directive

Directive # QH-HSD-047:2016
Effective Date: 01/09/2019
Review Date: 01/09/2022
Supersedes: Version 1

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 pre-engagement/pre-commencement screening requirements for Contractors, Students and Volunteers.

Scope

This Health Service Directive applies to Hospital and Health Services.

Principles

- *Patient and staff safety*: workers who are protected against vaccine preventable diseases reduce the risk of acquisition or transmission of vaccine preventable diseases 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 vaccine preventable disease screening for Contractors, Students and Volunteers across Hospital and Health Services.

Mandatory requirements

Hospital and Health Services must 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* (Qld)
- *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (Qld)

- *Public Health Act 2005* (Qld)
- *Information Privacy Act 2009* (Qld)
- *Public Records Act 2002* (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 Hospital and Health Services 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 (QH-HSD-040:2018)
- Protocol: Tuberculosis Control (QH-HSDPTL-040-1:2018)
- [Student Placement Deed](#) (for group A education providers)
- Student Placement Deed (for group B education providers)
- [Staff Vaccination Guides: Healthcare workforce vaccination programs](#)

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

- Health Employment Directive: Vaccine preventable diseases (VPD) requirements
- Recruitment and Selection HR Policy B1 (QH-POL-212)

Business area contact

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Communicable Diseases Branch
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Review

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

Date of last review: 01/09/2019

Supersedes: Version 1

Approval and Implementation

Directive Custodian

Dr Sonya Bennett
Executive Director
Communicable Diseases Branch

Approval by Chief Executive

Mr Michael Walsh
Director-General

Approval date: 27/08/2019

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

Definitions of terms used in this directive

Term	Definition / Explanation / Details
Contractor	<p>Contractor means a person engaged to perform services (clinical or non-clinical) within Hospital and Health Services as an independent Contractor, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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, <p>but does not include a person who is engaged as a health service employee under the <i>Hospital and Health Boards Act 2011</i>.</p> <p>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.</p>
Student	<p>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.</p>
Vaccine preventable disease screening	<p>An assessment process to ascertain if an individual has been vaccinated for the required vaccine preventable disease(s). This must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> confirming a history of vaccination; OR serological test results. <p>Both are not necessarily required. This may vary depending on individual immune response or on individual circumstances and/or medical advice.</p>

Vaccine Preventable Disease Screening for Contractors Students and Volunteers

Volunteer	An individual who supports Hospital and Health Services either through direct contact with patients/clients or other activities without financial gain or reward.
VPDs	Vaccine preventable diseases. For further information, please see The Australian Immunisation Handbook as updated from time to time.

Version Control

Version	Date	Prepared by	Comments
0.1	01/07/2016	CDIM	New document
0.2	01/09/2019	CDIM	Review version. Updated related legislation and related documents. New definition added.

