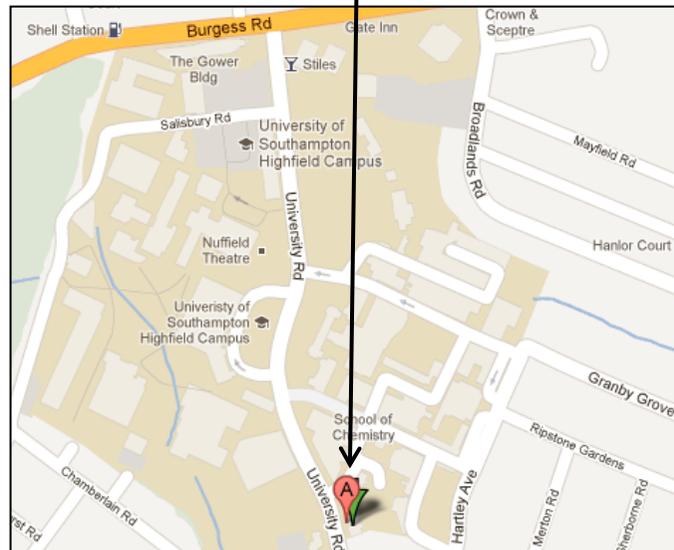




Occupational Health



Occupational Health Service

Temporary Global Shortage of Hepatitis B

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Monday – Friday 08.00 – 16.00

There is a global shortage of hepatitis B vaccination.

What does this mean for me?

You would have expected to have been offered the hepatitis B vaccination or offered a Booster or a 4th dose or changed the date or even cancelled your next vaccination

Why can't I have the vaccination?

Due to a global shortage there is a very limited supply which is being reserved for the highest risk groups of people.

Who decided who should be vaccinated?

Public Health England has issued guidance

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/631145/Hepb_vaccine_temporary_recommendations_adults_and_children.pdf

What does this mean for me?

If you are undertaking Exposure Prone Procedures (EPP) before February 2018 you will be offered Hepatitis B vaccinations. If you are a student you should refrain from undertaking EPP's until you are vaccinated – your university is aware of this.

What is an Exposure Prone Procedure?

Exposure-prone procedures (EPPs) are those invasive procedures where there is a risk that injury to the worker may result in the exposure of the patient's open tissues to the blood of the worker. These include procedures where the worker's gloved hands may be in contact with sharp instruments, needle tips or sharp tissues (eg spicules of bone or teeth) inside a patient's open body cavity, wound or confined anatomical space where the hands or fingertips may not be completely visible at all times. However, other situations, such as pre-hospital trauma care, should be avoided by healthcare workers who are restricted from performing EPPs.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/382152/health_clearance_tuberculosis_hepatitis_hiv.pdf

Exposure Prone Procedures are most usually undertaken by Scrub staff in theatres, Surgeons, Midwives, paramedics and dentists

Hepatitis B

Hepatitis B is a **highly infectious viral infection** that is found in blood and other body fluids.

How is it transmitted?

The virus may be transmitted by contact with infected blood or body fluids.

What precautions should I take?

Wear PPE- (Personal Protection Equipment) e.g. Gloves, Goggles, Mask when dealing with Blood or bodily fluids (messy surgical dressings, Trachea tubes, suction, urine etc) as per policy
Use safety needles and cannulas
Use sharps bins at all times for all sharps
Don't leave used sharps for someone else to clear up.

What if I have a needlestick or contamination and I've not been vaccinated?

Undertake First Aid (wash the area) and PHONE the HOTLINE XTN 6353 (023 8120 6353) and follow the instructions.