

# Immunization Policy

## TTUHSC School of Pharmacy

In order to protect the health of our students and the health of the patients with whom they come in contact, TTUHSC requires all entering students to provide documentation of several immunizations as well as the results of serological titers to determine whether or not they are actually immune to certain diseases. Immunization requirements are based on regulations, guidelines and recommendations available as of October, 2009 from the Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Texas department of State Health Services (DSHS), the U. S. Centers for Disease and Control and Prevention (CDC), and the U. S. Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices (ACIP).

Copies of lab reports, immunization and/or health records must be provided to the School of Pharmacy. **Attachment B** is a list of required vaccinations required for all students enrolled in healthcare fields.

### **NEW STUDENTS**

All new students accepted to the program are required to be current on the following immunizations before beginning the first year of pharmacy school. The TTUHSC School of Pharmacy Immunization Requirement form should be used to list the dates of immunizations or titers. It is required that supporting documentation be attached to the form upon submission to the TTUHSC Office of Institutional Health.

**Hepatitis B**--3 doses, generally 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> doses one month apart, the 3<sup>rd</sup> dose four to six months after the first dose, or **quantitative** titer demonstrating immunity. The hepatitis B third dose may be received during the first semester of pharmacy school due to the length of time required to obtain the full 3-doses.

**MMR-- (Measles, Mumps & Rubella )** -2 doses one month apart, or serological titer demonstrating immunity. *The titer must demonstrate immunity to all three diseases.*

**Varicella**--2 doses one month apart, or serological titer demonstrating immunity

**Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria & Acellular Pertussis).** **Must have been received within the last ten years.** 1 adult dose is required.

**Tb Skin Testing** Testing within the past twelve months. The CDC **DOES NOT** recognize a previous history of **BCG** as reason to not take a yearly Tb skin test. Unless there is documentation of a **POSITIVE** Tb skin test, a Tb skin test within the past 12 months is required. If a **POSITIVE** Tb skin test is documented, a report, indicating a negative chest x-ray taken within the previous twelve months is **required**. A positive TB skin test or if exposure to a suspected or confirmed +TB patient, a completed TB Questionnaire must be submitted - **Attachment A.**

**Meningococcal** - One booster dose of Meningococcal vaccine (MCV) – Adult – during the five year period prior to enrollment. Note: exemption if 30 years or older on the first day of class in the semester of initial enrollment )

**CPR**—All new students must obtain an American Heart Association Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers certification. Only the American Heart Association CPR is accepted.

## **CONTINUING STUDENTS**

All continuing students must remain current throughout their pharmacy career. **Attachment B** is a list of required vaccinations required for all students enrolled in healthcare fields.

**FLU VACCINE**--At the current time, the flu vaccine is provided by the Institutional Office of Student Services. This vaccine is provided in October each year at no cost to the student. The students will be notified when the vaccine is available and must obtain the vaccine and provide a copy of the documentation to the Office of Student Affairs in Amarillo or Abilene. Any student who has an allergy to any vaccine component or has some other medical condition which prevents him from having this vaccine must provide a doctor's statement declaring the medical condition which prevents the injection. If at any time a student enters a clerkship rotation and the rotation site requires the flu vaccine before the vaccine is available through the Institutional Office of Student Services, the student is required to obtain any and all required shots before the rotation begins and the cost of the vaccine is born by the student.

## **MENINGOCOCCAL:**

Former TTUHSC SOP students under 30 years of age who are enrolling following a break in enrollment of one fall or spring must provide documentation that they have received a Meningitis vaccination.

**Enrollment requirements**—Students involved in patient-care related activities are required to maintain current student health records and CPR certification. Prior to each enrollment period, a review will be made of the students' health records by the TTUHSC School of Pharmacy, Office of Student Affairs and the student will be notified of impending requirements. If a student has any immunizations, screenings, shots or CPR certification that may fall due (with the exception of the flu vaccine) during the next enrollment period, the student will be required to update their health record **at least one week prior to the start of the semester**. Any student who is not current with immunizations on the first day of the semester shall not be permitted to participate in any patient-related activities. The student will be automatically dropped on the first day of the semester from any patient-related courses, rotations, and or activities and will not be allowed to complete any patient-care related courses during the entire semester. Students may enroll in patient care courses for the following semester if all immunizations, CPR, flu vaccine, if applicable, and TB screening are completed by the first day of the following semester. Patient-related activities are provided throughout all four-years of pharmacy school.

Immunization records are maintained for each student on the School of Pharmacy web site, under Academic Information/Policies/Student Health Records. To view personal records, the student must have an e-raider account.