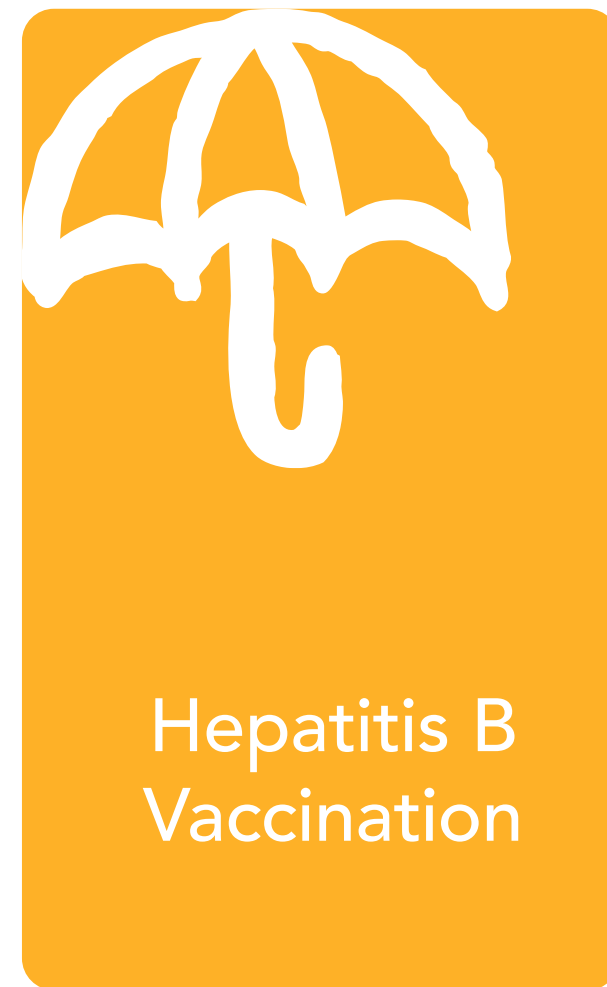




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What is Hepatitis B?

Hepatitis B is an infection of the liver caused by the Hepatitis B virus. It is very infectious. Most people who contract Hepatitis B do not have symptoms. If symptoms do occur they can appear 1–6 months after coming into contact with the virus. The infection can persist for many years and silently cause severe liver damage including cirrhosis, liver failure and liver cancer. In most people a full course of vaccination prevents infection. However in a small number of people it may not be effective.

How is Hepatitis B Transmitted?

You can become infected with Hepatitis B if you come into contact with the blood or body fluids of an infected person. Transmission mostly occurs:

- Through unprotected anal, vaginal or oral sex.
- As a result of blood–blood contact via sharing of contaminated needles or injecting equipment.
- Transmission from mother to baby during pregnancy.

Who should consider having Hepatitis B vaccination in this sexual health clinic?

- Men who have sex with men.
- Anyone who has ever injected drugs.
- Anyone who has been paid for sex.

- Anyone who has paid for sex.
- Anyone who has had 9 or more sexual partners within the last 12 months.
- Anyone who has a sexual partner with Hepatitis B infection.
- Anyone who has been sexually assaulted recently.

About the Vaccination

Vaccination is done through a course of injections into the upper arm. It is essential to complete the full course.

- You will have blood taken before the first vaccination is given to ensure that you do not already have Hepatitis B.
- After you have received the injection, we recommend waiting 10 minutes in the clinic in case of any reaction to the vaccine.
- A booster vaccination is recommended 5 years after completing the course if you remain at risk of infection.

Possible Side Effects

- Localised pain in the arm.
- Flu like symptoms for up to 72 hours.

Allergic reactions are very rare.

The signs may include: swelling of the face, rash, feeling faint or difficulty breathing. If any of these symptoms occur seek medical help immediately.



	VACCINE DUE	DATE GIVEN
1 st Vaccine		
2 nd Vaccine		
3 rd Vaccine		
4 th Vaccine		

*** Before leaving please book an appointment for your next vaccination(s)**

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Please see the following link to find out where you can obtain the Hepatitis B vaccination:

www.umbrellahealth.co.uk/service-locator

