

# Fact Sheet

## Eligibility for free Hepatitis B vaccine in Queensland



This fact sheet explains eligibility for free hepatitis B vaccine in Queensland under either the State or the National Immunisation Program



### Refugees and other humanitarian entrants are eligible for funded catch-up vaccines.

Migrants from hepatitis B endemic countries are recommended testing for hepatitis B, and vaccination if appropriate because they are more likely to:

- have been previously infected with hepatitis B virus
- have a close household contact with chronic hepatitis B.

### Migrants (with a Medicare Card) are eligible for funded vaccines if they are from:

Areas of high endemicity, indicated by high seroprevalence of hepatitis B surface antigen, include:

- most of East and Southeast Asia (except Japan)
- Pacific island countries
- parts of central Asia and the Middle East
- the Amazon Basin
- sub-Saharan Africa.

### Other eligible risk groups include:

- household or other close (household-like) contacts of persons with hepatitis B
- persons with hepatitis C or chronic liver disease
- HIV positive adults and other immunocompromised adults
- sexual contacts of people with hepatitis B
- persons who inject drugs
- sex workers
- infants from birth receive a birth dose hepatitis B vaccination followed by 3 doses of hepatitis B containing combination vaccine at 6 weeks, 4 months and 6 months

- low-birth weight preterm newborn infants (<2000g), and/or infants born at <32 weeks gestation (irrespective of weight), it is recommended to receive a booster of hepatitis B-containing vaccine at 12 months of age
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

**All people (except for children commencing their immunisation schedule) require hepatitis B serology before hepatitis B vaccination.**

### Register as a Queensland Health Vaccine Service Provider

If you are not already a registered vaccine service provider with the Queensland Health Immunisation Program, email [QHIP-ADMIN@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:QHIP-ADMIN@health.qld.gov.au)

### Further information:

[Queensland Health Immunisation Schedule Queensland](#)

[Queensland Health Public Health Units](#)

[Australian Immunisation Handbook – Hepatitis B](#)

[Australian Immunisation Handbook - Vaccination for migrants, refugees and people seeking asylum in Australia](#)

[Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care - Catch-up immunisations](#)

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