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**University of California San Francisco  
Student Health & Counseling Services  
HEPATITIS B VIRUS (HBV) DECLINATION FORM**

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**HEPATITIS B:** Hepatitis B is a viral infection of the liver caused by Hepatitis B virus (HBV). About 1.25 million people in the U.S. have chronic Hepatitis B virus infection. Each year approximately 300,000 new infections are reported to the Center for Disease Control. Most people who become infected with Hepatitis B recover completely, but 5 to 10% will become chronic carriers of the virus. Although many chronic carriers do not have symptoms of the disease, they are capable of transmitting the virus to other persons, primarily through blood exposures or sexual contact. Each year 4,000 to 5,000 persons die from chronic Hepatitis B.

**OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE:** In the hospital and university setting, health care workers with direct patient contact, laboratory workers and researchers with blood or body fluid contact are at increased risk for acquiring the Hepatitis B virus. An unvaccinated individual who receives an accidental blood or body fluid exposure from an infected source has a 40% chance of infected with Hepatitis B. Each year in the U.S., more than 9,000 health care workers contract Hepatitis B, and of those, 300 will die of liver-related disease.

**VACCINATION:** Becoming infected with Hepatitis B is preventable. The Hepatitis B vaccine, a synthetic vaccine made from a yeast base, is currently required for health care students and other exposed students at UCSF. Full immunization requires completion of a series of three vaccinations given over a six month period. 80% to 90% of healthy people who receive the vaccine develop antibodies that protect them from getting Hepatitis B. There is no evidence that the vaccine has ever caused Hepatitis B. At this time, no one knows how long the immunity produced by immunocompromised or on dialysis might require increased doses of vaccine in order to convert to positive antibodies. The incidence of side effects is very low. A few people experience tenderness and redness at the injection site. A low grade fever may occur. Rash, nausea, joint pain and mild fatigue have also been reported.

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**HEPATITIS B VACCINATION DECLINATION**

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**I understand that due to my occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials, I may be at risk of acquiring Hepatitis B virus (HPV) infection. I have been given the recommendation to be vaccinated with Hepatitis B vaccine. However, I decline Hepatitis B vaccination at this time. I understand that by declining this vaccine, I continue to be at risk of acquiring Hepatitis B, a serious disease. If in the future I continue to have occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials and I want to be vaccinated with Hepatitis B vaccine, I will return to Student Health Services for the vaccination series.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_