

## **Egg Harbor Fire Department and First Responders Standard Operating Guidelines**

**SUBJECT: HEPATITIS B VACCINATION**

**SOG 218**

**PURPOSE:** To protect members as much as possible from the possibility of Hepatitis B infection, Egg Harbor Fire Department has implemented a vaccination program.

**SCOPE:** This policy shall apply to all members of the Egg Harbor Fire Department.

### **PROCEDURE:**

Egg Harbor Fire Department shall make available the Hepatitis B vaccine and vaccination to all members who have occupational exposure at no cost to the member and at a reasonable time and place.

The vaccination consists of a series of three inoculations over a six-month period. As part of the bloodborne pathogens training, members receive information regarding Hepatitis B vaccination, including its safety and effectiveness.

Hepatitis B vaccination shall be made available to all members who have occupational exposure unless the member has previously received the complete Hepatitis B vaccination series, antibody testing has revealed that the employee is immune, or the vaccine is contraindicated for medical reasons.

Egg Harbor Fire Department shall not participate in a pre-screening program a prerequisite for receiving Hepatitis B vaccination.

If the member initially declines Hepatitis B vaccination, but at a later date, while still covered under the OSHA standard, decides to accept the vaccination, Egg Harbor Fire Department shall make available the Hepatitis B vaccination at that time.

Vaccinations are performed under the supervision of a licensed physician or other healthcare professional. To ensure that all employees are aware of our vaccination program, it is thoroughly discussed in the bloodborne pathogens training and "Vaccination Program Notices" are posted in prominent places throughout Egg Harbor Fire Department.

Egg Harbor Fire Department shall assure that employees who decline to accept the Hepatitis B vaccination sign a declination statement.

If routine booster dose(s) of Hepatitis B vaccine are recommended by the U.S. Public Health Service at a future date, such booster dose(s) shall be made available under the same provisions as described in this section for initial vaccination.