



## IMMUNIZATION PROGRAMS: "Taking our best shot at prevention"

### Programs may include:

- ε Educational pamphlets describing exposure risks, prevention methods, diseases and vaccines, including contraindications and adverse reactions
  - ε Promotional posters
  - ε Data collection and management of confidential medical information
  - ε Education of employees regarding exposure risks, diseases, personal protection and vaccines
  - ε Follow-up of adverse reactions to vaccines
  - ε Toll free number for employer and employee access to an Occupational Health Nurse for questions or concerns
  - ε For large organizations, promotional and educational materials can be customized. Organization-specific databases can be developed for
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## HEPATITIS A

### What is Hepatitis A?

Hepatitis A is a disease of the liver that is caused by the Hepatitis A virus. It is spread through eating or drinking infected food or liquids, or by direct contact with an infected person.

### Who is at risk?

- ε Customers and employees are at risk wherever food is prepared or served
- ε Residents and employees of certain institutions
- ε Frequent travelers to countries with inadequate sanitation

### How can Hepatitis A be prevented?

By a series of 2 shots of Hepatitis A vaccine.

### What employers should know:

- ε A Hepatitis A Immunization Program will protect food industry employers by preventing infected employees from contaminating food and exposing customers to Hepatitis A
  - ε A Hepatitis A outbreak could damage a good reputation, result in decreased business and excessive cost of disposing of potentially contaminated product
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## HEPATITIS B

### What is Hepatitis B?

Hepatitis B is a disease of the liver that is caused by the Hepatitis B virus. It is spread through contact with infected body fluids.

### Who is at risk?

Workers who come into contact with body fluids (e.g. emergency services, sanitation workers, health care workers).

### How can Hepatitis B be prevented?

By a series of 3 shots of Hepatitis B vaccine.

#### **What employers should know:**

HEALTHSERV Immunization and Titre Testing Programs for Hepatitis B meet the requirements of WorkSafeBC Regulation 6.39 concerning the provision of vaccination. These programs play a crucial role in protecting at-risk employees from this potentially lethal disease.

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## **INFLUENZA**

#### **What is Influenza (Flu)?**

Influenza is a viral disease caused by the Influenza virus. The strains may change from year to year. It is spread through "droplet infection" (e.g., if an infected person coughs or sneezes.) The virus can spread through the air or via contaminated surfaces.

#### **Who is at risk?**

- ε As many as 1 in 5 Canadians may get the flu each year
  - ε People over 65 years old, the very young, those with chronic illness or immunity problems are at greater risk
  - ε Any employee in contact with the general public or an infected person **How can the flu be prevented?** By a single shot of vaccine at the beginning of flu season. What employers should know:
  - ε Studies show that immunizing workforces reduces absenteeism due to influenza and may reduce costs
  - ε Providing immunizations at the workplace increases participation and the program's benefits
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## **Our Services**

HEALTHSERV Professionals Inc.'s Immunization Programs are directed by an Occupational Health Physician and a Certified Occupational Health Nurse. Services are provided by Registered Nurses who currently provide immunizations in over 900 locations throughout British Columbia, as well as in Western Alberta. Programs can be provided to suit companies ranging from small individual employers to province-wide corporations.