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Sent: Tuesday, 1 October 2019 5:15 PM
To: bbvguidelines <bbvguidelines@ahpra.gov.au>
Subject: 6.2

6.2 Prevention and detection of HBV infection.

All HCWs and Students HCWs should be vaccinated against HBV prior to commencement of employment, studies or clinical placements if they have no documented evidence of pre-existing immunity.

This is not necessary as HCWs are adults and informed about the risks with no danger to the patient must be allowed to make the choice of vaccination or not. Since the risk falls solely with the HCW it is their risk to take or not. There are known dangerous side effects from this vaccine that are well documented and HCWs must be given the right to practise their chosen profession without being forced to have unnecessary vaccines. Indeed some of these side effects will effectively end the career of the HCW. Whether the side effects are rare or not is a mute point.

It is stated that HCW's should have three year testing for BBV I agree with this as the prevention measure needed. HCW's who do receive the vaccine but do not develop immunity continue to work in their chosen profession having the 3 yearly blood test. This is there fore sufficient.

Requiring the HCW to sign a stat declaration taking responsibility for this risk removes the onus from the employer or teaching institution

I have worked in all high risk groups Aboriginal remote communities, prisons, mental health, A & E for over 40 yrs I am not immunised with HBV and am regularly checked and have no BBV. I practise universal precautions at all times. This has never been an issue in obtaining work and no employer has had any concerns.

Regards Deborah Devitt CN