Infectious Diseases Screening

Note: Entrants to the Occupational Therapy Programme will not be permitted to participate in Clinical Placements (mandatory requirement for qualification) unless the following requirements outlined in this document are met.

Please read this document carefully and ensure that you take note of the times for screenings and injections.

Address for Correspondence:

Claire Gleeson  
Discipline of Occupational Therapy  
School of Medicine  
Trinity Centre for Health Sciences,  
St. James’s Hospital Campus,  
Dublin 8,  
Ireland.  
Tel: 00353 1 896 3217  
Email: clgleeso@tcd.ie
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Introduction

Precautions against infectious diseases are governed by Blood Borne Viruses (BBV) regulations which have been agreed by the Medical Schools of Ireland and represent the consensus view of the Council of Deans of Faculties of Medical Schools in Ireland.

With regard to the transmission of infectious diseases, the Discipline of Occupational Therapy in the School of Medicine at Trinity College Dublin strikes a balance between our pastoral responsibility to individual students applying for entry and our overriding duty of care to the public with whom Occupational Therapy students are in close contact. In this context, the Discipline and School is obliged to ensure that reasonable and appropriate measures are taken not only to safeguard the students and their colleagues, but also the patients and members of the public.

All health care professionals have a duty of care to the public. In the interests of reducing the risk of the transmission of infectious diseases from patients to students, or student to patient, all new entrants must attend their regular medical practitioner or the Trinity College Health Centre prior to registration, to certify their immunity to tuberculosis, measles, mumps, rubella and chickenpox. In addition, students must produce evidence of their Hepatitis B and C status and where appropriate confirmation that they do not have active disease. Students who are Hepatitis B negative but not already deemed to be immune to Hepatitis B will be required to undergo a course of vaccination.

Influenza occurs seasonally and students may be offered vaccination through the individual teaching hospitals at these times, it is advisable that students obtain a flu vaccination where possible.
Requirements

The Discipline of Occupational Therapy in Trinity College Dublin requests all students on the Occupational Therapy degree course (including international, mature and advanced entry students) to provide evidence of absence of infection or immunity to a number of diseases before commencing the Occupational Therapy Degree Programme.

All entrant students wishing to complete clinical placement on the Occupational Therapy degree programme must provide the Discipline of Occupational Therapy with a certified document from a registered Medical Practitioner confirming the students’ immunity to the following infectious diseases. Please note that completing clinical placement is a mandatory component of the professional Occupational Therapy programme.

- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis C
- Pulmonary Tuberculosis
- Varicella Zoster (Chickenpox)
- Measles
- Mumps
- Rubella

CAO applicants will not be able to register for the course unless these requirements have been met.

How can students meet these requirements?

1. Immediately on receipt of an offer of a place to study Occupational Therapy at Trinity, students must make an appointment with the Trinity College Health Centre to request full screening for the infectious diseases listed above.

The following *screening times have been protected with the Trinity Health Centre to allow you attend for screening:

28th August 2017 to 15th September 2017
9.00am -12.00pm daily

*YOU MUST BOOK AN APPOINTMENT FOR SCREENING* on 01-8961556/1591
2. Following registration and before commencing clinical contact with patients, students will be required to follow the accelerated Hepatitis B programme provided by the Trinity College Health Centre. This involves a series of three vaccinations which will be provided at the Trinity Health Centre on the following dates and times:

- Monday 13th November 2017 at 10am
- Monday 20th November 2017 at 10am
- Thursday 7th December 2017 at 2pm

ALL COSTS MUST BE MET BY THE STUDENT. RECEIPT OF PAYMENT MUST BE RETAINED AS PROOF OF PAYMENT.

You need to bring all your Vaccination Documentation to these appointments. Failure to attend for vaccination on these dates will result in students being prohibited from going on clinical placement.

Cost:

All costs for screening and any subsequent vaccinations must be met by the student. The Trinity College Health Service will charge each student €200 for the following service:

- Blood sample(s) required for screening.
- Transportation and retrieval from Blood laboratory.
- All necessary follow-up vaccinations, to include full MMR and Mantoux testing, where necessary for Tuberculosis & all other tests if required for infectious diseases listed.
- Cost for Varicella (chicken pox) vaccine will be an additional €70.00 per injection should this be necessary.
- Cost of a Mantoux test will be is an additional €20.
- Result interpretation/record on file in Trinity College Health Service.
- The Trinity College Health Service will liaise with the Discipline of Occupational Therapy regarding results.
- This testing will be by appointment only (at the specified times listed above) with the nurse. As stated, students must contact the College Health Centre at 01 8961556/1591 stating that they require pre-registration blood tests.
– Payment can be made by cash, cheque (made payable to College Health Centre, Trinity College Dublin) or by credit/debit card.

(Note that attending the College Health Centre is the recommended route. You may attend your GP for this service but this may delay your screening process and administration for placement. If attending your own GP you need to supply all necessary instruction and documentation to GP prior to screening and then ensure that all recommended documentation is fully completed and returned to the relevant person in the Discipline of Occupational Therapy, in Trinity.)

Incomplete documentation will not be accepted and students will not be permitted to commence their clinical placement.

College Health will notify the Practice Education Co-ordinator in the Discipline of Occupational Therapy once the results are reviewed and deemed satisfactory. The Practice Education Co-ordinator will then clear the student for registration.
General Information regarding each requirement:

**Hepatitis B & Hepatitis C:**

Students must return satisfactory proof from the Medical Physician (College Health Centre or own GP) that they are not currently infected with Hepatitis B or C. **Students must provide results for both Hep B core and Hep B surface – there are no exceptions to this and all students whom do not provide these results will have their documentation returned to them and will be delayed in their registration.** If a positive Hepatitis C antibody test is returned a negative PCR test for Hepatitis C RNA will be required. **Only results from a blood sample taken in the last 6 months are acceptable.**

Students do not have to be vaccinated against Hepatitis C but they do need to provide certification that they do not have active disease.

An accelerated vaccination programme for Hepatitis B is provided by the Trinity College Health Centre and all students are required to complete this vaccination programme. When the course of vaccinations are completed a blood titre level needs to be checked to ensure appropriate levels of immunity have been achieved. Depending on the results of the titre, students may be required to complete a booster series of vaccinations. **All costs must be met by the student.**

**Pulmonary Tuberculosis:**

If you have been vaccinated for TB, you will have a ‘BCG’ scar which Trinity College Health Centre or your Practitioner will record. If you do not have a scar your physician will facilitate a Mantoux test. If you have difficulty obtaining a Mantoux test or your result is positive then a Chest X Ray must be obtained. Trinity College Health (or physician) must certify that you don’t have active disease and that you have immunity to this disease.

**Chickenpox, Measles, Mumps and Rubella:**

A record of your vaccination history to date regarding Chickenpox, Measles, Mumps and Rubella is required. Trinity College Health Centre or Medical Practitioner must certify that you have immunity to Chickenpox. Measles, Mumps and Rubella. A blood test is required to confirm this. The Discipline of Occupational Therapy may request that you attend the Trinity College Health Service to undergo vaccination for Chickenpox, Measles, Mumps and Rubella if necessary.
All costs must be met by the student.

*Only test results from blood samples taken in the six months prior to registration are acceptable.*
*Student To Do List*

- Make sure you read this document in full.

- Make an appointment with the College Health Centre for Vaccination Screening immediately after receiving your college offer at the times specified.

- Ensure all forms are fully completed and return to the address provided.

- If using your own GP (versus College Health), give the GP/Medical Practitioner the explanatory letter regarding blood testing (it’s included in these documents) and ensure ALL forms (The Student Consent Form, The Immunity Declaration Form, and The Immunisation Record) is sent to the address provided below.

**Claire Gleeson**  
**Practice Education Team**  
**Discipline of Occupational Therapy,**  
**School of Medicine,**  
**Trinity Centre for Health Sciences,**  
**St. James’s Hospital Campus, Dublin 8.**

*It is the Student’s responsibility to make sure the above mentioned documents are sent to the Discipline of Occupational Therapy. Raw blood results should not be sent from the laboratory to the Discipline of Occupational Therapy. Blood results MUST be interpreted by your medical practitioner (College Health or GP) and he/she must determine if you have immunity to the listed infectious diseases.*
Letter to College Health Centre or GP

Dear Doctor,

The Discipline of Occupational Therapy, Trinity College Dublin request that all students undergo immunity screening prior to participation in clinical placement. This is mandatory for students to engage in clinical placement. Your patient needs to be screened for the items listed below and certify their immunity towards these infectious diseases. If they do not have immunity, please advise your patient what further vaccinations they require to achieve immunity for these diseases. They do not need to be vaccinated for Hepatitis C but it must be certified that they do not have active disease.

Students who do not have these details submitted to the Discipline will not be permitted to commence their clinical placement. Students are not able to work in any Occupational Therapy Department without certification from a GP/Medical practitioner that they have immunity to these infectious diseases:

1) Hepatitis B s Antigen (HbsAG)
2) Anti HB Core Antigen (Anti-HBc)
3) Negative Hepatitis C antibody test.
4) Screen for Pulmonary Tuberculosis, Chickenpox, Measles, Mumps and Rubella.

In regard to Pulmonary Tuberculosis, please record if the student has a visible BCG-Scar. If not, the student must undergo a Mantoux Test. If a Mantoux test is not possible or the result is found to be positive, a Chest X Ray will be required. If the patient has not been vaccinated against Chickenpox, Measles, Mumps and Rubella please also screen your patient for previous exposure to each of these infections.

What is required when blood results are returned to you from the laboratory?

- If a positive Hep B result is found, a follow-up Hepatitis B e-antigen (HbeAG) test will be required.
- If positive Hepatitis C antibody test a negative PCR test for Hepatitis C RNA will be required before registration.

Please complete and return 1) The Student Immunisation Record and complete, sign and stamp 2) The Immunity Declaration Form. Please return these forms to your patient and the student must then return these forms to: Claire Gleeson, Practice Education Team, Discipline of Occupational Therapy, Trinity Centre for Health Sciences, St. James’s Hospital, James’s Street, Dublin 8.

If you require any clarification re specific vaccination screening tests please ring College Health Service (01) 8961556/1591.

All student vaccination screening blood results must be reviewed by the Trinity College Health Centre before registration. College Health will notify the Practice Education Co-ordinator once the results are reviewed and
deemed satisfactory. The Practice Education Co-ordinator will then clear the student for registration. Students will be cleared on receipt of fully completed documents.

ALL of the following forms, must have all parts signed and stamped confirming immunity for all listed infectious diseases, this is ESSENTIAL. A failure to submit these documents will result in the refusal of the student to commence their clinical placement.

Responsibility for payment for all tests rests with your patient. Thank you.
Student Consent Form

Please return this Record to the provided address.

To the student:

Students’ Name: (Surname)  (First Name)

Address:                      Contact Phone/Mobile Number:

Email-address:

Date of Birth: Day  Month  Year

I hereby consent to information relating to my immunity status to be sent to and held by College Health and the Discipline of Occupational Therapy as necessary.

Print name:___________________________

Signed:___________________________

Date:___________________
The Student Immunisation Record

Return this Record to address provided.

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<tr>
<th>Students Name: (Surname)</th>
<th>(First Name)</th>
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<tr>
<td>CAO / Application Number</td>
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<td>Address:</td>
<td>Contact Number:</td>
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<td>Email-address:</td>
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<td>Date of Birth: Day Month Year</td>
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Hepatitis B Status – Documentation, including lab reports and results, required

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<th>Hepatitis B s Antigen (HBsAG)</th>
<th>Result:</th>
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<th>Anti HB Core Antigen (Anti-HBc)</th>
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Hepatitis B Vaccine (if previously administered - three doses required)

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<td>Dose 3</td>
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If Immune proof of HBsAB

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### Hepatitis C Status - Documentation required

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### Proof of Immunity to Tuberculosis

**BCG SCAR**

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<th>Present? Y/N</th>
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If you do not have a BCG-Scar, please undergo a **Mantoux Test**

**Mantoux tuberculin skin test**

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If **positive** Mantoux Tuberculin skin test but no history of BCG, undergo a **Chest X Ray**

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### Immunity to Measles, Mumps and Rubella

If you have had any MMR vaccinations before, please state the dates below.

1. **Measles Vaccine**

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2. **Measles Vaccine**

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1. **Mumps Vaccine**

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2. **Mumps Vaccine**

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<td>1. Rubella Vaccine:</td>
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Is there a history of Chicken pox? 
If no 

Doctor’s Name (Block Capitals Only)  
Address:  

Doctor’s Signature:  
Contact Number:  
Date:
The Immunity Declaration Form

To the Discipline of Occupational Therapy,

Student Name:__________________________________________

Student Number:________________________________________

Student Email:__________________________________________

Contact Phone Number:__________________________________

Date:___________________________________________________

I hereby confirm that __________________ (Print Name) has satisfactory immunity levels/blood results to the infectious diseases outlined below.

Please tick the following boxes as appropriate.

- Hep B (HBsAG & (Anti-HBc) negative
- Hep C negative
- Hep B immunity levels within normal range
- Measles immunity levels within normal range
- Mumps immunity levels within normal range
- Rubella immunity levels within normal range
- Varicella Zoster virus immunity within normal range
- Evidence of immunity to Tuberculosis satisfactory

Doctor (Print Name):____________________________________

Address: _____________________________________________

Doctors’ signature:____________________________________

Date:__________________________________________________

Any additional Comments:

Students must return this letter to: Claire Gleeson, Practice Education Team, Discipline of Occupational Therapy, School of Medicine, Trinity Centre for Health Sciences, St. James’s Hospital Campus, Dublin 8.

Documentation will not be accepted without an official stamp.