



Occupational Health
Department
IMMUNIZATION

What is an immunization record?

- In New Brunswick, the immunization record contains a list of the vaccinations that a person has received since childhood. If you do not have an immunization record, it is important that you ask for one in your country **before you leave**. This way, you will have it on hand when you arrive.
- In order for your first appointment with the health nurse to be effective, it is important that you have proof of all your vaccinations. This will thereby help you avoid several follow-up appointments.
- New Brunswickers can now consult their immunization record through the [MaSantéNB \(gnb.ca\)](https://gnb.ca) website.

Proof of vaccinations required when you start at Vitalité Health Network

The Network's Occupational Health Department must know your immunization status for the following:

- Diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus and polio;
- MMR (measles, mumps and rubella)
- Varicella;
- Hepatitis B;
- Results of your previous TSTs, if applicable.

Immunizations when you start work:

- A TST (tuberculin skin test, also known as a "Mantoux Test") will also be required at your first appointment with the health nurse to determine whether you have been exposed to tuberculosis. If you received a BCG vaccination at birth, make sure to have proof of this.
- If you do not have proof of all your vaccinations, a blood test will be required to check your immunity.
 - ▶ For Tdap and polio, it is impossible to check your immunity with a blood test. If you do not have proof of these vaccinations, the vaccinations will be administered to you as per policy GEN.4.50.15 – Screening/Immunization of Staff Members
- If you are missing required vaccinations or screenings (see section above), they will be provided to you on site.

Length of Occupational Health Department appointments:

- The length and number of appointments required at the Occupational Health Department varies. If you have no record of immunization, you will need several appointments to receive all the required vaccinations (e.g., the MMR vaccine requires two appointments).
- The first appointment will last 45 to 60 minutes. It will involve:
 - ▶ Review of your immunization record;
 - ▶ Explanation of the procedure to follow in the event of work accidents or incidents;
 - ▶ Explanation of certain Network policies and practices (e.g., GEN.7.50.25 – Scent-free Environment and GEN.4.50.06 – Exposure to Blood and Body Fluids).
- Follow-up appointments (second appointment, third appointment, etc.) will depend on your immunity and screening:
 - ▶ If you do not have all your vaccinations, you may have to return to obtain them (approximately 30 minutes);
 - ▶ If you have received all your vaccinations, you will only have to return to check your TST result (5 minutes).
- Depending on whether or not you have written proof of a previous TST, you could have up to two injections and two readings.
- Depending on your TST, you may need an X-ray, blood test and consultation with a microbiologist. If you do not have Medicare, there is a process so that you do not have to pay the fees.
- Everything is done over a period of approximately six months but may take 18 to 24 months depending on your record of immunization.
- You must call 1-833-249-2003 as soon as you are hired to book your first appointment. Follow-up appointments will be booked with you on site. If you cannot make your appointment on time, please let staff know as soon as possible so that they can see another employee.
- You have the right to refuse a vaccination. In this case, you must go to the Occupational Health Department at the time of your appointment to sign the refusal of treatment form; everything will be documented in the Occupational Health Department records. You cannot, however, refuse the TST or the blood tests to determine your immune status, which are mandatory to ensure the employer's compliance with the *Hospital Act* and policy GEN.4.50.15 – Screening/Immunization of Staff Members.

Note: Required vaccinations are provided free of charge to Network staff.