

St John's Way Medical Centre

Patient information leaflet on Occupational Health Services

Where should I go for occupational health services?

You should discuss with your employer or manager about what provision they make for occupational health services at your place of work.

Is the service confidential?

Your employer's occupational health service should be confidential. If they are going to reveal any health information to your employer they should let you know. If they are going to write to any outside agencies (including your GP) for information they should ask you to sign a consent form which they will include when they write for a report.

How do I know what occupational health services I need?

Your work's occupational health nurse or doctor will discuss this with you.

What types of preventative treatment might be needed?

Vaccinations for Hepatitis A and/or B might be recommended or considered.

Hepatitis A vaccination

Recommended for: laboratory workers, staff of some large residential institutions, sewage workers, people who work with primates

Considered for: food packers/handlers, staff in day-care facilities, healthcare workers

Hepatitis B vaccination

Recommended for: healthcare workers, laboratory staff, staff of residential and other accommodation for those with learning difficulties, morticians/embalmers, prison staff in regular contact with prisoners

Considered for: police, fire rescue services

(Reference: Immunisation against infectious disease Department of Health 2006)

What should I do if I think I've been exposed to Hepatitis at work?

You should inform your employer immediately. They may have a policy about how this should be dealt with. If you have not been immunized, post-exposure immunisation may be advised depending on the circumstances you may need to attend a same day appointment at the GP or attend Accident and Emergency.

Where can I get more information?

In the middle corridor of the GP surgery there are leaflets giving more information on most illnesses.

Could I be at risk of Hepatitis from other sources?

If you are at risk of contracting hepatitis for other reasons such as sexual intercourse or injecting drugs please discuss this with the doctor or nurse at the GP surgery in confidence.