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CLINICAL PLACEMENTS SEROLOGY SCREENING FOR STUDENTS

Gawler Place Medical Practice have put together this Question and Answer sheet to assist you in meeting the requirements of [SA Health's Immunisation for Health Care Workers in South Australia Policy – August 2017](#).

It is a requirement that all Health Care Workers have adequate immunisation against certain diseases prior to working in a clinical environment.

What is Serology Screening and why do I need to do it?

Serology Screening is a blood test that looks for antibodies in your blood. The purpose of such a test is to detect serum antibodies to prove protective immunity against a disease.

Where can I have Serology Screening done?



Gawler Place Medical Practice offer Serology Screening appointments to allow incoming students to have their serology screening completed, and where required, obtain their required vaccinations to meet SA Health's Immunisation for Health Care Workers in South Australia – August 2017.

Australian Clinical Labs are located within our Practice so that you can have your blood taken (if required) as soon as you have seen the doctor.

How do I make an appointment?

You may contact the practice to organise an appointment, our telephone number is 8212 7175 or make a booking online. Please make a long appointment booking.

If you need to change or cancel an appointment please contact our Practice on (08) 2127175 as soon as possible so that your appointment can be offered to another person.

What do I need to bring with me to the Screening Appointment?

*You will need to bring your **Immunisation History** with you to your appointment, this will allow the Doctor to determine which serology blood tests you may or may not require. This should include childhood immunisation records, high school records and travel vaccinations. You could also make contact with your local council to see if you can obtain your high school records if you don't have them.*

*Remember **the serology price will depend on how many tests you need done**, hence the importance of bringing with you any documentation relating to previous vaccines/immunisations.*

If you **have not previously visited** the Gawler Place Medical Practice you will need to be registered as a patient and complete our "New Patient Information Form". Please complete this form online via our website or arrive 10 minutes before your scheduled appointment to complete

Is there a cost involved with Serology Screening?

Yes, Serology Screening is not covered by Medicare or your Overseas Health Funds, it is a Non-Medical Rebatable Service, therefore there is a **one-off charge of \$50.00** which you will be required to **pay at your first appointment** when you see the doctor.

If you require blood tests to be done to confirm your immunisation status then these tests are **not covered by Medicare or Overseas Health Funds**. The costs of the pathology will depend on how many tests you require.

Subsequent appointments will be bulk-billed for your results, providing you have a valid Student ID card and either a Medicare card or Overseas Health Insurance membership card.

THEREFORE IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO BRING ALL YOUR IMMUNISATION HISTORY AND RECORDS WITH YOU – THE LESS TESTS YOU NEED, THE LESS COSTS INVOLVED.

I have had my serology blood tests done, what now?

If you require blood tests to be done to confirm your immunisation status you will need to make an appointment to see the doctor for results.

This appointment will be bulk-billed and the doctor will;

- advise you of the blood test results
- advise you of which vaccinations you may/may not require
- ensure you are able to have your vaccinations if needed
- complete the "Certificate of Compliance" form for SA Health

If you do require vaccinations they will be commenced at this appointment and administered by our Practice Nurse. Some vaccinations require you to have 2 or more doses, if this is the case we will place you onto our SMS reminder system.

What do Vaccines cost?

Vaccine costs will vary depending on which vaccination you require, how many doses you need and whether you require a full course or a booster vaccine.

The doctor and/or Practice Nurse will discuss the vaccine costs with you at your second appointment.