

Hepatitis B

The LMC last reviewed its policy in June 2003 but the situation has not changed and the following advice is given:

1. Hepatitis B screening for occupational health reasons is not part of NHS work. Where a patient asks for it for employment reasons the standard LMC letter can be given to take back to the employer.
2. There have been several instances where prospective or serving police officers have been sent to GPs for immunisation. The Committee advises colleagues to resist pressure from Gloucestershire Police to get their Hepatitis B work done in primary care.
3. The Committee's agreed that it was reasonable to carry out Hepatitis B screening and vaccination of prospective medical students as part of the NHS service, even though no fee beyond the PDA claim was appropriate.
4. Where a firm requiring Hepatitis B vaccination (or other OH advice) but does not have its own OH adviser the Committee thought it reasonable for GPs to offer an address list of suitably qualified GPs willing to take on the work. A sample letter to the patient and/or their employer is attached as per link:

Sample letter to patient