

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**

**Organization Name**

**Street Address**

**City, State and Zip Code**

**SUBJECT: Hepatitis B Vaccine Declination Statement**

I understand that due to my occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials I may be at risk of acquiring hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection. I have been given the opportunity to be vaccinated with hepatitis B vaccine, at no charge to myself. However, I decline hepatitis B vaccination at this time. I understand that by declining this vaccine, I continue to be at risk of acquiring hepatitis B, a serious disease. If in the future I continue to have occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials and I want to be vaccinated with hepatitis B vaccine, I can receive the vaccination series at no charge to me.

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| (Name of EPA employee [printed]) |  |  |
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| (Signature of EPA employee) |  | (Date) |
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|  |  |  |
| (Signature of SHEMP Manager) |  | (Date) |

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| HBV infections are a major health problem in the United States, with some estimates suggesting that about 300,000 new infections occur each year. HBV infection can lead to a variety of clinical symptoms: some people are asymptomatic, some experience a mild flu-like illness, and some develop a very severe infection that may result in debilitating hepatitis, cirrhosis of the liver, or cancer. People infected with HBV can transmit the organism during any of these clinical states. Those who suffer from a chronic form of hepatitis (perhaps as many as 1.25 million people in the United States alone) never completely recover from initial infection. The risk of death and impaired health resulting from acute and chronic HBV infection is significant. Thus, knowledge of the disease and preventative measures are critical. The best defense against HBV is the hepatitis B vaccination series. |