Practice Information

- **Locations**
  - Wentworth Building
  - Holme Building
- **Hours**
  - 8.30 am to 5.00 pm
- **For what**
  - Treatment of illness and accidents
  - Routine checkups
  - Contraception
  - Immunisations
  - Travel Medicine
  - Psychological Medicine
  - Diving and sport medicals
- **Cost**
  
  Direct billing if valid
  - Medicare
  - World Assist (overseas students)

Medibank Private – pay and claim
How to use the service

- Make an appointment
- Drop in service
  - for urgent injuries or illness only
- Medical Certificates, Special Consideration
Vaccinations and screening tests required

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basic student vaccinations</th>
<th>All students and staff should be vaccinated against</th>
<th>Tetanus Diphtheria Polio Measles Mumps Rubella Hepatitis B Meningitis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animal care vaccinations</td>
<td>Students or staff who work with animals should also be vaccinated against:</td>
<td>Q Fever</td>
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Tetanus

- Acute often fatal illness caused by the toxin produced by Clostridium tetani
- Bacillus grown anaerobically at wound site – wounds with poor blood supply eg burns, crush injuries
- Incubation period 4-21 days
- Muscle rigidity, spasms
Tetanus prevention

- Wound cleaning
- Active immunisation with tetanus toxoid causes you to produce antibodies to toxin:
  - Three injections at 0, 2, 4 months
  - Slow response
- Passive Immunisation injects human antibodies from the bloodbank
  - Immediate protection
Tetanus immunisation - animal & farm exposure

- Tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis given at 2, 4, 6 months of age, then 5 years and then at 12 years.
- If doubt about the primary course having ever being given, then repeat.
- Booster if severe or contaminated wound and >5y since last booster.
- Combined diphtheria vaccine age 50.
Q Fever
Definition

- Q fever is an infectious disease caused by Coxiella burnetii, an organism particularly resistant to heat and drying. Inactivated by pasteurisation.
- Initial glandular fever like illness with uncommon but serious complications
- Up to 50% of meat workers and 28% of farm workers have antibodies
Epidemiology: Mechanism

- **C. burnetii**
  - Survives in dust, soil and water, resistant to drying >1 year
  - Spread as dried organisms on wool, hides, farm-workers clothing, straw, packing materials. Acquired by inhalation of organism from infected animals.

- Highest levels in amniotic fluid.
  - Aerosol inhalation, soil contamination

- A secondary dust forms from infected fluids, blood, urine, faeces, milk.

- Ticks.

- 400-600 infections/year in Australia

- Highest risk in new entrants to the workforce
Epidemiology: Animals implicated

- Sheep
- Cows
- Goats
- Deer
- Bandicoot
- Dogs
- Cats
- Kangaroo
- Rodents, and their ticks
Personnel infected

- Abattoir workers
- Farm workers
- Shearers
- Wool sorters
- Dairy workers
- Veterinary personnel
- Veterinary students
- Visitors to abattoirs, engineers, electricians, maintenance workers
- Research workers
- Vet school technicians
- Farm visitors
Clinical Manifestations
Initial Infection

- Glandular fever like illness
- Fever 2 to 4 weeks, 40-41 °C
- Severe headache
- Cough
- Muscle and joint pains
- Severe fatigue can be prolonged
- Primary site of infection is the lungs-pneumonitis
- Liver involvement (30%)
- Weight loss
- Treated with doxycycline
Complications

- Heart involvement 10%
  Chronic endocarditis, especially aortic valve involvement
- Prolonged disease
- Thrombocytopenia
- Post Q Fever fatigue syndrome (20%)
Prevention

- Avoid contact
- Vaccination
  - Vaccine is a killed purified extract of the organism grown in eggs
  - Skin test and blood test first to avoid vaccinating those who have immunity, as an abscess can develop at the vaccination site.
  - Day 1: skin and blood test
  - Day 8: Read test, vaccinate if appropriate.
Vaccination

- Wentworth Building Level 3
- Bring your Medicare card or overseas student card

- Skin tests, blood tests are covered by Medicare/Worldcare

- Test material: free ($30)
- Vaccine: $90.00
Contra-indications

The following should **NOT** be vaccinated:

- Anyone with a history of Q fever
- Persons who have not had a negative skin and blood test
- Persons with an allergic hypersensitivity to egg protein
- Immunodeficient or immunosuppressed individuals—AIDS, cancer therapy
- Pregnancy—no known problems but safety not established
Vaccine side effects

- Local tenderness 48%
- Redness 33%
- Headache 9%
- Mild fever 2%
- Delayed swelling at injection site, up to 8m after injection, resolves gradually, Rare.