

Rules for vaccination of staff

Ref. No 1–506/2022

Valid from 2022-06-28



**Karolinska
Institutet**

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Revision with respect to: Revised national vaccination recommendations			

With support from 2 chapter, 5 § in the Swedish Higher Education Act (1992:1434) the following is stipulated:

1 Introduction

When working with specific microorganisms or toxins for which protective vaccines are available, vaccination shall be offered after a risk assessment and medical consultation, in accordance with the provisions (AFS 2018:4) and general recommendations from the Swedish Work Environment Authority.

KI employees shall receive information on available and recommended vaccines for them when working at KI.

2 Responsibility

Head of units, research group leaders or immediate supervisors are responsible for ensuring that their employees are informed and offered vaccination depending on their work needs.

3 Implementation

Employees covered by the occupational health care agreement at KI are entitled to receive vaccination at no cost pending the risks they may face in their work.

4 Exposure to blood and other human samples

Employees that in their work risk being exposed to bloodborne pathogens shall be offered vaccination against Hepatitis B. Depending on the risk assessment, additional vaccines may be needed when working with blood or other human samples material.

5 Laboratory work with microorganisms

When working with specific microorganisms or toxins for which protective vaccines are available according to the list below, vaccination must be offered after a risk assessment and medical consultation.

Hepatitis A-virus
Hepatitis B-virus
Human papillomavirus (HPV)
Influenza A and B virus (during the influenza season)
Japanese B encephalitis virus
Measles (morbilli virus), mumps (parotitis virus), rubella (rubella virus)
Neisseria meningitidis strains A, C, Y, W135 and B- meningococci
Polio virus
Rabies virus
Salmonella typhi – typhoid fever
SARS-CoV-2 (Covid-19)
Streptococcus pneumoniae - pneumococci
Tetanus/Diphtheria/Whooping cough
Tick-borne encephalitis virus (TBE)

Varizella zoster virus – chicken pox/shingles

Vibrio cholerae – cholera

Yellow fever virus

Unvaccinated employees that work with diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, measles, mumps, rubella, or polio must be offered vaccination against the respective infectious agents.

6 International work-related travel

When travelling abroad on business, an individual assessment must be made based on the destination and activity. Support for the assessment can be sought from a vaccination clinic, the Swedish Work Environment Authority, and the Region Stockholm website. The department shall pay for this vaccination cost.

7 Vaccination of non-KI employees occupying our premises

This refers to staff that are not employed by KI, such as students on scholarship, cleaning staff and technical staff. These personnel categories can also be at risk for infection and must after a risk assessment and medical consultation, be offered vaccination when needed.

Undergraduate students at KI should turn to the student health center for vaccinations.

8 Vaccination risks

Vaccination is not free from risks, especially when living, attenuated microorganisms are used. A risk assessment, possibly including a medical evaluation must be done before taking the decision to vaccinate. KI occupational health services will provide advice on this.

9 Vaccination costs

Staff that have an employment contract, and as such included in the occupational health agreement at Karolinska Institutet, are entitled to Hepatitis B vaccination free-of-charge via KI occupational health services, if so motivated by work-exposure risks. Other vaccinations are paid by the research group leader or the head of unit. An IGRA test for tuberculosis screening can be done via KI occupational health services but is paid for by the research group leader or head of unit.