MOODY Bible Institute™

HEALTH SERVICE

Application for Permanent Waiver for Immunization on Religious Grounds

Printed Name:_____

Any student requesting a waiver must sign this document indicating:

1. I have received information provided by Health Service about immunizations;

2. I understand the risks and benefits of immunizations, the potential risks of non-immunization and the risk of epidemic to myself and the MBI community;

3. I have specific religious beliefs that are in conflict with immunization. Specifically, I believe that _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

4. I object to immunizations on religious grounds;

5. I consent to be excluded from all MBI's facilities immediately upon notice of the first identified case and until three weeks after the last identified case as determined by Public Health Department; and

6. I have been informed that MBI will not refund any tuition or fees because I was unable to attend or complete classes due to exclusion from campus under the waiver policy.

_____ _____

Student Signature (Parent/Guardian if student is under 18 years old)

Date

_____

MBI Student ID Number

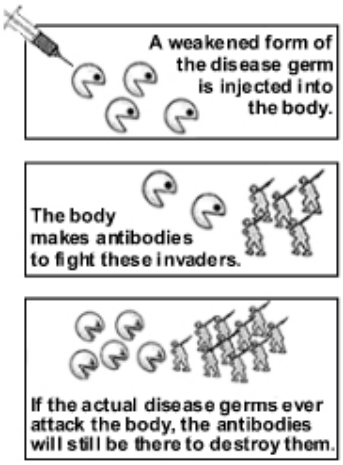
Contact Moody Bible Institute - Health Services with questions.
820 North LaSalle Drive • Chicago, IL 60610-3284
312-329-4417 • Fax 312-329-4419 • www.moody.edu

MOODY Bible Institute™

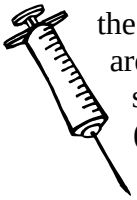
HEALTH SERVICE

Vaccines and Immunizations

Each person is born with a full immune system composed of cells, organs and fluids that are located throughout his or her body to fight bacteria and viruses. The immune system recognizes germs that enter "foreign" invaders, or *antigens*, and produces protein substances called fight them. A normal, healthy immune system has the ability to millions of these antibodies to defend against thousands of attacks doing it so naturally that people are not even aware they are being defended so often (Whitney, 1990). Many antibodies disappear once destroyed the invading antigens, but the cells involved in antibody remain and become "memory cells." Memory cells remember the antigen and then defend against it when the antigen attempts to re-person, even after many decades. This protection is called *immunity*.



Vaccines contain the same antigens or parts of antigens that cause



the antigens in vaccines are either killed or greatly weakened. When they are injected into fatty tissue or muscle, vaccine antigens are not strong enough to produce the symptoms and signs of the disease but are strong enough for the immune system to produce antibodies against them (Tutora and Anagnostakos, 1981). The memory cells that remain prevent re-infection when they encounter that disease in the future. Thus, through vaccination, people develop immunity without suffering from the actual diseases that vaccines prevent.

Disease prevention is the key to Public Health. It is always better to prevent a disease than to treat it. Vaccines prevent disease in the people who receive them and protect those who come into contact with unvaccinated individuals. Vaccines help prevent infectious diseases and save lives. Vaccines are responsible for the control of many infectious diseases that were once common in this country.

Immunizing individual people also helps to protect the health of our community, especially those people who are not immunized. People who are not immunized include those who are too young to be vaccinated, those who cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons, and those who cannot make an adequate response to vaccination. Also protected, are people who received a vaccine, but who have not developed immunity. In addition, people who are sick will be less likely to be exposed to disease germs that can be passed around by unvaccinated children Immunization also slows down or stops disease outbreaks.

Immunizations, like any medication, can cause adverse events. However, a decision not to immunize a child also involves risk. It is a decision to put the child and others who come into contact with him or her at risk of contracting a disease that could be dangerous or deadly. Consider measles. One out of e- children with measles develops pneumonia. For every 1,000 children who get the disease, one or two will die from it. Thanks to vaccines, we have few cases of measles in the U.S. today. However, the disease is extremely contagious and each year dozens of cases are imported from abroad into the U.S., threatening the health of people who have not been vaccinated and those for whom the vaccine was not effective.

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