

WEISMAN CHILDREN'S REHABILITATION HOSPITAL (WCRH)

INFECTION CONTROL MANUAL

SUBJECT: Small Pox Vaccine Recipients **No:** EH116

EFFECTIVE DATE: 2/03 **Page:** 1 of 1

REVIEWED/REVISED: 4/03, 10/04, 11/05, 8/06, 8/07, 5/08, 1/09, 2/10, 1/11, 1/12, 1/13, 1/14, 1/17, 1/18, 1/19, 3/21

IC. 02.03.01

PURPOSE:

To ensure patient and employee safety following small pox vaccination and to address compensation issues related to lost work time.

POLICY:

It is our goal to allow any employees who have received small pox vaccination through the military or through other employers to continue to work at WCRH during the period of possible communicability (until the scab falls off). However, cases will be handled on an individual basis with regards to whether patient contact can take place because of the possible risk of passing the vaccinia virus to patients.

PROCEDURE:

1. Any employee who will be receiving small pox vaccine must report it to their supervisor as soon as possible.
2. The supervisor is to report all employees' names to the Infection Control Professional.
3. This will not be considered a Workers' Compensation issue for employees of WCRH. Compensation for any absence that occurs will be paid from any PTO the employee has available.
4. The Infection Control Professional will discuss each case with the physician and Infectious Disease physician with regards to whether the employee may take part in patient care and what site checks may be necessary.
5. Employees working after small pox vaccination must have the site covered with a gauze dressing, followed by an occlusive dressing, such as Tegaderm. Long sleeves must be worn.
6. Meticulous hand washing is essential as virus from the site is spread by direct contact.