



## Veterinary Technology Students Only

# Immunizations and Health Insurance Requirements (IHIR)

Statement: All students enrolled in the Program of Veterinary Technology must be fully immunized against rabies and tetanus and must carry health insurance during matriculation at Manor College.

Why are rabies and tetanus immunizations, and health insurance required before matriculation?

The program's curriculum includes many laboratories in which students will be working directly with animals. Animals are unpredictable and can carry diseases that can be passed to humans. Though it is a rare disease, all mammals can carry rabies, particularly those with unknown immunization histories such as strays that come from shelters. The program uses shelter animals in many of its courses. Therefore, all students enrolled in the Program of Veterinary Technology must be immunized against Rabies (or be exempted by a physician). The rabies immunization series is a three (3) or two (2) shot series that is usually NOT covered by personal health insurance. The cost of the series is about \$850, but this can increase without notice. All students must receive the full series and should allow 8 weeks for its completion.

Students can be exposed to viral and bacterial infections from bite wounds and other contact with animals, therefore all students in the program must be immunized against tetanus and must carry health insurance during the duration of their matriculation.

Students are responsible for their own health care costs including the rabies immunization series. Most health insurance policies do not cover pre-exposure rabies immunizations.

How do I prove that I have received the rabies and tetanus immunizations?

The back of this form must be completed and signed by a physician as verification of coverage. Students will not be permitted to take VT105 Large Animal Clinical and Emergency Procedures or any other course that requires hands-on training with animals until this form is completed and returned to the Veterinary Technology Office.

Students should make a Xeroxed copy of this form when completed, for their own records.

Where can I go to get the immunizations?

It is recommended that rabies immunizations be given by the Occupational and Environmental Health Department of a local or regional hospital and not by the family physician. We particularly recommend the Center for Occupational and Environmental Health at the Abington Memorial Hospital. Because many Manor Veterinary Technology students have been immunized there over the years, the physicians maintain the correct vaccines in stock and are familiar with their administration. For appointments call (215) 481-2233. Students should allow 8 weeks for an appointment and completion of the rabies series. Tetanus boosters, if required, may also be given on one of the three days when rabies is administered. Incurred costs are the responsibility of the student and are typically not part of a financial aid budget or covered by most health insurance.

Be sure to take this form with you and have it signed each time you go to your appointments.

When completed, mail to:

Charmaine Hofmann, Program of Veterinary Technology  
Manor College  
700 Fox Chase Road  
Jenkintown, PA 19046

# Verification of Immunization

Completed form is due to the Veterinary Technology Office prior to the first day of classes.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's First Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Middle Initial

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Last Name

The following is to be completed by a physician:

## 1. Rabies IM Pre-exposure Rabies Prophylaxis

Day 0: _____ Date given	Day 21 or 28: _____ Date given
Day 7: _____ Date given	Students with a protective titre do not require additional immunization against rabies. Titre: _____ Protective? Yes ___ No ___
_____ Physician's Signature	
_____ Date	

## 2. Tetanus Toxoid

Please confirm that patient is protected against tetanus. If booster is required, an immunization must be administered prior to the commencement of classes (Aug. 30 for fall semester or Jan. 15 for spring semester).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of last tetanus immunization

\_\_\_\_\_  
Physician's Signature

### Exemption

The administration of rabies pre-exposure prophylaxis and/or tetanus toxoid may be contraindicated in students with some medical conditions. If the student is exempt from receiving these immunizations, the physician must sign below:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Physician's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Immunizations NOT administered: Rabies \_\_\_ Tetanus toxoid \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for exemption: \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. Health Insurance

To confirm that you carry current and active health insurance, please xerox a copy of your health care card (front and back) and staple it to this form.