Student Name: _____

G#_____

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY | University Life

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Waiver of Immunization Against Hepatitis B Disease

Hepatitis B is a serious liver disease caused by the hepatitis B virus (HBV). HBV infection can affect people of all ages and lead to liver disease. Some people are never able to rid themselves of the virus, and this long-term, or chronic, HBV infection can cause chronic liver disease, liver cancer, and death. The virus is found in the blood and body fluids of infected people and is most often spread among adults through sexual contact or by sharing needles and other drug paraphernalia with an infected person. HBV can also be spread in households of HBV-infected persons or by passage of the virus from an HBV-infected mother to her infant during birth. Hepatitis B can be a silent disease, often infecting many people without making them feel sick. Unfortunately, 30 percent of those infected with HBV are not aware that they are carriers and can infect others. Hepatitis B symptoms might include loss of appetite, fatigue, stomachache, nausea and vomiting, yellowing of the whites of the eyes (jaundice), and/or joint pain. Vaccination can help prevent people from contracting hepatitis B. The HBV vaccine is 96 percent effective following a series of three shots over a six-month period. The most common side effect of the vaccine is soreness at the injection site. Vaccine recipients cannot get the disease from the vaccine.

I have received and reviewed the information regarding hepatitis B and the availability and effectiveness of the hepatitis B vaccine.
*I have chosen **not** to be vaccinated against hepatitis B.*

_____ _____

Signature of Student **Date** **If student is a minor, signature of parent/guardian** **Date**

Waiver of Immunization Against Meningococcal Disease

Meningitis is an inflammation of the linings of the brain and spinal cord. It is caused by bacteria called *Neisseria meningitidis.* The bacteria are transmitted through air-borne droplets of respiratory secretions and by direct contact with infected persons. Although bacterial meningitis occurs rarely and sporadically throughout the year, increased outbreaks occur among college students, especially those who live in residence halls. Early symptoms of meningococcal disease include fever, severe headache, stiff neck, rashes, and exhaustion. If not treated early, meningitis can lead to severe and permanent disabilities or even death. A vaccine is available that protects against four strains of the bacteria that cause meningitis in the United States: types A, C, Y, and W-135. These types account for nearly two-thirds of meningitis cases among college students. The vaccine is safe, with mild and infrequent side effects, such as redness and pain at the injection site lasting up to two days. The vaccine is 85 to 100 percent effective.

*I have received and reviewed the information regarding meningococcal disease and the availability and effectiveness of the meningococcal vaccine. I have chosen **not** to be vaccinated against meningococcal disease.*

_____ _____

Signature of Student **Date** **If student is a minor, signature of parent/guardian** **Date**