

Hepatitis B and immigration



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Disclosures: None

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BACKGROUND

www.hepatitis.org.au

People with **chronic Hepatitis B** are now more often denied a permanent visa



Medical exam



Assessment by
Medical officer
of the Common
wealth (MOC)



- free from tuberculosis
- free from any disease that is a threat to the public health in Australia
- free from any disease or condition that would:
 - receive healthcare or community services that are likely to result in 'significant costs', currently this is set at a threshold of \$40,000 of the total visa period
 - Or prejudice the access of an Australian citizen or permanent resident to healthcare or community services.

Health waiver?

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WHAT TO INCLUDE IN THE MEDICAL REPORT

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In all cases a medical report should deal with the nature and degree of severity of **CHB** in the patient/visa applicant and the prognosis.

The issues to address could include:



- Whether or not antiviral treatment is needed
- If on treatment, will this influence the patient's ability to e.g. work?



- Is it likely that the the patient develop fibrosis, cirrhosis, or HCC?
- Is it likely that the patient will develop end stage liver disease and require liver transplantation?



- Will the patient be able to contribute to the Australian community (e.g. via paid or volunteer work) despite having CHB?

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CONCLUSION

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The provision of a 'positive' medical report in a migration case is very important. It can contribute to a favourable outcome for the patient.



Scan code to find resource

Or visit:

www.ashm.org.au/products/product/hepbandimmigration



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