

**MANAGEMENT OF ACCIDENTAL NEEDLESTICKS
OR EXPOSURE OF MUCOUS MEMBRANES TO BLOOD OR BODY FLUIDS**

Policy

The Post Exposure Prophylaxis Protocol is applicable to any student exposed to blood or body fluids, as established under CDC Guidelines.

Purpose

1. Establish the procedure to be followed when an exposure accident occurs.
2. Prevent transmission of bloodborne pathogens to employees and/or students.

Procedure

When a needlestick accident occurs or when patient secretions come into contact with mucous membranes, the student must:

- Wash the affected area with water and soap if the exposure with percutaneous
- Wash with abundant water if the exposure is to mucous membranes.

The student must notify her/his immediate Supervisor, who will document the unexpected incident report. With this report, the employee and/or student then reports to the Emergency Room.

In the Emergency Room the physician on duty will evaluate the student and conduct a thorough physical exam.

If the physician determines that the Postexposure Prophylaxis Protocol should be started, the physician must document it in the Unexpected Incident Report and in the medical record.

The following laboratory samples are taken from the patient: CBC with Differential, VDRL, Hepatitis Panel and HIV Test with the consent of the employee and/or student.
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If it is determined that due to the exposure the employee and/or student needs antiretroviral medications, these will be provided.


The circumstances of the exposure are confidentially documented in the Logbook for that type of accident.

The information which must appear on the report includes the following:

- a. Date and time of exposure.
- b. Task being completed at time of exposure.
- c. Details of the exposure (clean needle, contaminated, including the amount and type of material).
- d. Severity of the exposure (specify depth, whether it was a percutaneous exposure and whether blood or contaminated material was injected).
- e. Exposure to skin and mucous membranes (describe the surface area exposed, duration of contact and condition of skin and mucous membranes exposed).
- f. Description of the source of exposure including if it is known that the source contained HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis B or C and risk factors.
- g. Details on the counseling, management and follow-up provided to the employee and/or student.
- h. After the student has been medically assisted, the student is interviewed in order to verify if the accident arose as a consequence of inappropriate management of safety equipment. If it is determined that this was the factor in the accident, in-service education is provided regarding safety equipment.

EFFECTIVE DATE

The provisions contained in this Executive Order shall take effect immediately.


YOCASTA BRUGAL, M.D.
President / Dean

APPROVED: July/2013