

## **In the event of an exposure to blood or another potentially infectious body fluid:\***

1. **Wash** the area with soap and water as soon as possible. If it was a mucous membrane exposure (e.g., eye), flush with water.
2. **Report** the exposure to the supervisor (e.g., clinical nurse manager) of the area where the exposure occurred.
3. The supervisor will **notify** the “Needle-Stick Coordinator” M-F 9am-5pm (**pager # 4118**) or the Assistant Nursing Administrator on weekdays 5pm-9am, weekends, & holidays (via the Page Operator).
4. **The source patient needs to be assessed.** (If outpatient setting, source patient should be asked to **remain** in clinic until assessment is completed.)  
Risk factor assessment: The Coordinator will interview the source patient and/or review the medical record as necessary.  
Laboratory testing: Source patient is to be tested for Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) and Hepatitis C antibody (anti-HCV or HCV Ab). These samples may be obtained without consent and without a physician order (Medical Board decision-see Infection Control Manual section B-3.2). The source patient should also be tested for HIV, using the rapid HIV antibody test, after informed consent is obtained. A speckled-top tube is used for these blood tests.
5. The **exposed person should be referred for medical evaluation:**
  - Staff, volunteers: Employee Health Service (M-F 8-1600) or Emergency Dept. (at all other times)
  - Medical Students: Jack Martin Fund Clinic (M-F 9-1600) or Emergency Dept. (at all other times)
  - All Other Students: Emergency Dept. at all times
  - Agency/Contract/Travel Staff: Emergency Dept. at all times
6. The **exposed person should take the following documents**, completed by the supervisor, to the medical evaluation:
  - Employee Accident/Injury Report or Non-Employee Occurrence Form
  - Employee Health Service Referral Form

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\*Potentially infectious body fluids include: blood, cerebrospinal fluid, pleural fluid, pericardial fluid, peritoneal fluid, amniotic fluid, synovial fluid, semen, vaginal secretions, any visibly bloody fluid, and unfixed tissues.

*Vomit, saliva, nasal secretions, sputum, tears, sweat, urine and feces are considered **not** infectious **unless** visibly contaminated with blood.*