

Needle stick and blood exposure procedure.

Procedure to follow after accidental exposure to body/body fluid:

First Aid Treatment

- Needlestick or Cut should be allowed to bleed, and then wash affected area with water and soap or an antiseptic solution (e.g. Chlorhexidine 2%) as soon as possible.
- Skin/Mucosal Exposure (e.g. skin, mouth, and nose) should be rinsed with water or saline several times. If blood/body fluids gets into the mouth, spit it out then rinse with water or saline in copious amounts.
- Conjunctival Exposure If the eyes are contaminated, rinse whilst open with water or saline.

Notification of Exposure

- Immediate reporting to your supervisor or senior member on the ward (either medical or nursing).
- Incident must be documented by you by completing an online Incident Information Management System (IIMS) (NSW Health reporting system Incident Management PD2007_061)-if you don't know how to do this, please ask nursing staff in the ward environment.

You should be assessed (within one hour) by contacting:

- Staff Occupational Health Clinic first or if out of hours the emergency department. (hospital specific policy for the injury)
- If you are assessed in emergency you must still contact staff health as soon as possible
- Notify procedural skills co-ordinator at Concord Hospital (does not need to be done immediately-Sue Ralston or Toni Cavalletto)

All Health Care Workers (HCWs) who sustain an occupational exposure to blood/body fluids should have the following:

- A risk assessment conducted to determine exact level of exposure.
- counselling advice
- Appropriate blood tests
- Arrangements for testing of the source patient (if known) should be made
- Discussion of antiretroviral prophylaxis if exposure has been to HIV infected material (Microbiologist specialists is usually contacted.)
- Monitoring of antiretroviral prophylaxis
- Follow-up counselling and blood tests
- Monitoring of any signs and symptoms suggestive of possible infection
- HCW confidentiality maintained at all times

Incident Reporting

