5.2.1 WSU Bloodborne Pathogens Post-Exposure Procedures

Introduction

This information is designed to:

1. Assist WSU personnel to respond correctly after an occupational exposure to human blood
2. Ensure compliance with the OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Standard
3. Facilitate timely resolution of workers compensation claims resulting from exposure

What is an occupational bloodborne pathogen exposure?

An occupational bloodborne pathogen exposure is contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials that may result from the performance of an employee's duties.

What are the possible exposure methods?

Methods of exposure: An occupational exposure to human blood other potentially infectious material occurs in one or more of the following ways:

1. A stick with a contaminated sharp object (i.e., needle)
2. A splash to the eyes, nose, or mouth (i.e., mucous membrane)
3. A contact with non-intact skin (i.e., cut on hand)
4. Prolonged contact with intact skin

Post Exposure Procedures

Involving a needle stick or other potential exposure to a bloodborne pathogen by an employee, student intern, or assigned volunteer

1. **Cleanse the wound** and surrounding area with soap and water (for a needle stick), or flush eyes, nose or mouth with copious amounts of tap water (for a splash to the face).

2. **Inform your supervisor or clinical instructor** to call the appropriate infection control/blood exposure triage staff on duty, and alert them to expect you for immediate evaluation and treatment.

   • Evaluation must be completed within two hours of exposure. If the Health Care practitioner has any questions about the course of action or evaluation of the exposure potential, refer them to Dr. Kristen Ries, an infectious disease physician at the University of Utah. Her 24-hour telephone number is 801-585-3203.

3. **Report to the hospital triage staff according to where the exposure occurs:**

   • On campus or in McKay-Dee Hospital: Report to the McKay-Dee Hospital Emergency Room, 4401 Harrison, and ask for the Coordinator or Charge Nurse. Telephone 801-387-7002.
   • Off campus exposure or in any other hospital: Report to the nearest hospital, and ask for the Blood Exposure Triage Staff.
4. **Tell the triage staff you experienced an occupational blood exposure covered by WSU's Workers Compensation Insurance.**

   - Refer billing questions to the WSU's Environmental Health and Safety Specialist workers compensation coordinator at 801-626-8004, 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

5. **Request the source individual** to complete the Consent or Refusal (By source individual) for HIV, HBV, and HCV Infectivity Testing form, if appropriate. (Once the source individual gives consent for testing, your department is responsible for coordinating blood testing.)

6. **Inform the WSU's Environmental Health and Safety Specialist** of your exposure as soon as possible at 801-626-7823.

7. **Complete the WSU Occupational Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Incident forms** within 24-hours of your exposure, and send a copy to WSU Environmental Health and Safety Specialist, MC 2621. For a link to these forms, go to http://www.weber.edu/EHS/postexposure.html

   - **WSU Supervisor's Report of Accident** The supervisor or instructor of the exposed individual must complete and submit this form to EH&S within 24 hours following an occupational exposure to human blood or other bio-hazardous material.
   - **Incident Information Form** The exposed individual must complete and submit this form to EH&S within 24 hours following an occupational exposure to human blood or other bio-hazardous material.
   - **Source Individual's Consent or Refusal for Infectivity Testing Form** The individual whose blood or bio-hazardous material was involved in the occupational exposure (not the exposed individual) must complete and sign this form before submitting to testing.
   - **Refusal of Post-Exposure Medical Evaluation Form** The exposed individual must complete this form only if refusing post-exposure medical evaluation by a health care professional.

8. **If hospital triage personnel determine the risk is low, you may request follow up treatment with WorkMed** 1 (801-387-6151). Follow up treatment should begin within 48 hours following exposure, and includes initial screening; counseling concerning risk, health, and relationships; and follow up testing.

Direct questions about these procedures to WSU's Environmental Health and Safety Specialist,
Telephone: 801-626-7823; Fax: 801-626-8530;
3700 Skyline Parkway Dept 2621, Ogden, UT 84408-2621.