



GO Health Services  
NHS Grampian Occupational Health Service  
Foresterhill Lea Building, Foresterhill Health Campus, Aberdeen AB25 2YZ  
Tel 01224 559750

## **Schools of Nursing & Midwifery and Health Sciences**

### **Guidelines for Healthcare Students Exposed to Blood Borne Viruses in Placement Out-with NHS Grampian**

#### **Immediate actions:**

- First aid - Gently squeeze wound (**do not suck**), wash affected area with soap and water (**do not scrub**), rinse mucous membranes with warm water (**do not swallow**), cover broken skin with waterproof dressing
- Assess exposure and if it is a penetrating injury / exposure of broken skin / exposure of mucous membranes, including the eye, to blood or other body fluids
- Please contact **the local OHS provider** for initial risk assessment as soon as possible
- Ask Nurse/person in charge to report incident to the school via the local Patient Safety Incident software.

#### **For a significant exposure:**

#### **If the source patient is identified and known to be positive to a blood borne virus (HIV, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C)**

- During normal hours, please contact the local OHS provider. If **out-with normal hours** please attend the nearest A&E Department
- A risk assessment will be carried out. Prophylactic therapy, if indicated will be offered within one hour of contact.

#### **If the source patient is identified:**

Senior doctor or nurse:

- Interviews the source patient
- Completes a risk assessment

- Obtains consent from the source patient for a blood sample to be tested for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and HIV. Consent should be documented in the patient's notes
- Sends the blood sample to Virology Lab marked 'Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and HIV status. Results copied to the local OHS provider.

Contact the local OHS provider to arrange an appointment as a blood sample for storage is required and a risk assessment will be carried out regarding follow up.

### **If source patient is identified but status is unknown**

Senior doctor or nurse:

- Interviews the source patient
- Completes a risk assessment
- Obtains consent from the source patient for a blood sample to be tested for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and HIV. Consent should be documented in the patient's notes.
- Sends the blood sample to Virology Lab marked 'Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and HIV status. Results copied to the local OHS provider.

Attend the nearest A&E department or contact the local OHS provider to arrange an appointment as a blood sample for storage is required and a risk assessment will be carried out regarding follow up.

A blood sample will be taken from you, labelled "**for storage only - not for testing**". This storage sample will be stored in the NHS laboratory.

You will be assessed regarding the need for Hepatitis B and HIV post exposure prophylaxis.

### **If source patient is unknown**

Attend the nearest A&E department or contact local OHS provider to arrange an appointment as a blood sample for storage is required and a risk assessment will be carried out regarding follow up.

A blood sample will be taken from you, labelled "**for storage only - not for testing**". This storage sample will be stored in the NHS laboratory.

You will be assessed regarding the need for Hepatitis B and HIV post exposure prophylaxis.

*\*\* In order to provide appropriate care following your exposure, GO Health Services require the exposure documentation from the local OHS provider. Please complete the consent form. \*\**