

Responding to a Needlestick or Biological Exposure

Standard Operating Procedure

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A biological exposure includes: sharps injuries, splashes involving mucous membranes, aerosol exposures, animal bites, and other incidents involving biological materials. Examples of biological materials include:

- Human blood, blood components, blood products
- Other Potentially Infectious Material (OPIM)
 - Human body fluids
 - Semen
 - Vaginal secretions
 - Cerebrospinal fluid
 - Any body fluid contaminated with blood, or when difficult to differentiate between fluids
 - Human tissues or organs
- Human derived cells (primary or non-primary)
- Virus
- Bacteria
- Fungi
- Biological Toxins
- Animal tissue, fluids, and cells (known or suspected of being infectious)
- Transgenic Animals
- Recombinant DNA
- Bloodborne Pathogens (BBP): Pathogenic microorganisms that are present in human blood or OPIM (ex. HIV, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C)

Procedure: Responding to a Needlestick or Biological Exposure

STEP 1: How did the exposure occur? By a:

- Needlestick, cut, or other sharps injury, go to Step 2.
- Mucous membrane (ex. Nose, mouth, skin, eyes), go to Step 3.

STEP 2: Treat the needlestick or cut, then go to Step 4:

- Carefully remove gloves and expose wound
- Wash with soap and water.
- Do not squeeze the wound to induce bleeding
- Cover wound, then go to step

STEP 3: Treat the mucous membrane exposure, then go to Step 4:

- Nose, mouth, or skin: flush area with water for 15 minutes. Go to Step 4.
- Eyes: irrigate the eyes with water or a saline solution for 15 minutes. Go to Step 4.

STEP 4: Seek medical assistance:

For ANY exposure with Bloodborne Pathogens (BBP), human blood, or Other Potentially Infectious Material (OPIM)

- Call OHS at 734-936-6266 and Enter Pager ID # 5356 (Available 24 /7/365)
- Enter a phone number for a return call
- Wait for a return call from an OHS nurse who will document the incident and further instruct the individual on need for medical evaluation including testing or vaccination at OHS or ER.

For other exposures, medical assistance is available at the following treatment facilities:

U-M OHS - Campus Employees

Mon-Fri 7:00 am – 5:00 pm

Contact for current hours as they may vary

After hours - go to UM Hospital Emergency Dept. or Urgent Care Clinic

C380 Med Inn building

1500 East Medical Center Drive, Ann Arbor (734) 764-8021

University Health Services -- University students (non-life threatening conditions)

Mon-Fri 8 am – 4:30 pm, Sat 9 am – 12 pm Contact for current hours as they may vary

207 Fletcher Street, Ann Arbor (734) 764-8320

UMHS Emergency Department -- after clinic hours or on weekends

1500 East Medical Center Drive, Ann Arbor, (734) 936-6666

STEP 5: You must complete the following forms:

- [Illness or Injury Report Form](#) and submit it to Work Connections
- [Incident and Near Miss Report](#) and submit to EHS

STEP 6: Upon return to work, injured areas should be protected (water-proof wrapping, or some other impervious dressing) in a way to prevent further contamination or exposure.