

Oregon Health & Science University
School of Nursing

Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Procedures

Updated 3/15/04

All Nursing Students: Exposure to HIV, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, or Other Blood Borne Pathogens – What Action to Take

There is a national trend to increase protection to health care workers against blood borne pathogens. The Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA 29 CFR 1910) rules direct health care agencies to provide protection and education to their employees. Schools of Nursing are being rightfully required by our clinical agencies to provide assurances that our students have a level of protection and education similar to the health care agency. Each year several blood borne pathogen-training sessions are offered at each SON campus for students who are at risk of exposure in clinical settings. As well, **many students, who are already licensed registered nurses or CNA's may have access to this training through their employers.**

Yearly blood borne pathogen training is mandatory

Listed below are guidelines to follow if a needle stick or exposure to other blood borne pathogens occurs:

Student Responsibility if Exposed to Contaminated Body Fluids

On Campus

1. Clean your wound immediately with disinfectant soap.

Notify your clinical faculty and the clinical unit head.

Portland students: go to or call the OHSU Student Health Service at 503/494-8665.

Ashland students: go to or call the SOU Student Health office at 541-552-6163

LaGrande students: go to or call the EOU Student Health Office at 541-962-3524

Klamath Falls students: go to or call the OIT Student Health office at 541-885-1800

Regional students: go to the closest Emergency Room for assessment regarding the exposure. Your major medical insurance will be billed.

The clinical faculty completes the SoN Incident Report, that can be obtained from the Associate Dean for Practice Development's office 503/494-3397 and is available on the OHSU SON intranet website at: <http://ozone.ohsu.edu/HealthSystems/admin/1-07.htm>

*While the details of your contacts with the Student Health Service unrelated to your clinical incident **at your campus** will be held in strict confidence by the Student Health Service, your clinical faculty will notify Marna Flaherty-Robb, Associate Dean for Practice Development and Integration (503/494-3369) at the School of Nursing that a blood borne pathogen exposure has occurred and is being followed according to protocol. Note: HIPAA dictates the confidentiality parameters related to health insurance billing.*

2. After Health Service hours, go to the Emergency Department. OHSU's emergency department 503-494-7551. **Students at Ashland, LaGrande and Klamath Falls, go to the site specific or defined urgency care or Emergency Department of the hospital closest to you. Your major medical insurance will be billed if you use an emergency room. Each OHSU SON campus has arrangements for Student Health Services specific to their campus.**
3. By procedure the hospital or agency should conduct an assessment of the exposure source to determine HIV, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C status. That assessment should be initiated well before patient discharge, and may be conducted by the employee health unit. Ask the hospital to notify you of the results by a specified time.
4. Dependent upon the results of the assessment of the patient's status and your risk, post-exposure prophylaxes (PEP) will be offered to you by the Emergency Department. PEP should begin within 2 hours of the exposure, but the ED, after assessment, may agree to begin within 24 hours. Make sure that you are fully informed of your choices.
5. Follow-up after PEP is always with the Student Health Services **at your campus.**

At Another Health Care Agency or Clinical Site

1. Clean your wound with disinfectant soap when possible.
2. Notify your clinical faculty, the clinical unit head, and the Student Health Service (**Portland: 503-494-8665; Ashland: 541-552-6163; Klamath Falls: 541-885-1800 LaGrande: 541-962-3524**). The clinical faculty completes the SoN Incident Report that can be obtained from the Associate Dean for Practice Development's office 503 494-3397.

While the details of your contact with the Student Health Service unrelated to clinically related exposures will be held in strict confidence by the Student Health Service, your clinical faculty will notify Marna Flaherty-Robb (503/494-3369) at the School of Nursing that an incident has occurred. HIPPA compliance also dictates confidentiality process in the ED.

3. After Health Service hours, go to the Emergency Department. **If in Portland, go to OHSU's emergency department 503-494-7551 unless it is an unreasonable amount of travel time, in which case use the ED of the hospital nearest you.**

Your major medical insurance will be billed if you use an emergency room Other than OHSU and you will be responsible for any balance after insurance pays.

4. By procedure the hospital or agency should conduct an assessment of the exposure source to determine HIV, Hepatitis B, or Hepatitis C status. That assessment should be initiated well before patient discharge, and may be conducted by the employee health unit. Ask the hospital to notify you of the results by a specified time.
5. Dependent upon the results of the assessment of the patient's status and your risk, post exposure prophylaxes will be offered to you by the Emergency Department.

If not an emergency (based on # 4), contact the Student Health Service **at your campus location** as soon as possible.

6. Notify the Student Health Service about the incident so that they may follow-up with your care. Do this even if you do not use the Student Health Service for your own health care.

Make sure that you are fully informed of your choices.

(Keep this telephone number with you – cut & place in your wallet!)

Ashland students: Notify your clinical faculty and the SOU Student Health Service (541-552-6163) if you think you have been exposed to a blood borne pathogen

Klamath Falls students: Notify your clinical instructor and the OIT Student Health Service (541-885-1800) if you have been exposed to a blood borne pathogen.

La Grande students: Notify your clinical instructor and the EOU Student Health Service (541-962-3524) if you have been exposed to a blood borne pathogen.

Portland students: Notify your clinical faculty and the OHSU Student Health Service (503-494-8665) if you think you have been exposed to a blood borne pathogen.

Regional students: Notify your clinical instructor and seek care at the nearest Emergency Department.
