



Student Blood and Body Fluid Exposure

Student Post-Exposure Confidential Medical Evaluation, Baseline Blood Collection/Testing/Prophylaxis Treatment and Follow-Up

The purpose of this policy is to outline the procedure to be followed by a student at the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA) who has incurred a potential exposure incident to blood/body fluid during their coursework or research to decrease risk of infection with hepatitis B virus (HBV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). The student should notify their supervisor or Principal Investigator (PI) of the incident immediately, no matter how minor the incident may seem.

Potential exposure incident means skin, eye, mucous membrane, or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious material (OPIM) that may result from the performance of a student's coursework or research. Parenteral contact means piercing mucous membranes or the skin barrier through such events as needle sticks, human bites, cuts, and abrasions. OPIM includes various contaminated human body fluids, unfixed human tissues or organs (other than skin), and other materials known or reasonably likely to be infected with HBV, or HIV through cells, tissues, blood, organs, culture mediums, or solutions.

The potentially exposed student will be offered post-exposure treatment, which may include initial counseling, baseline blood collection/testing, and prophylaxis treatment for HBV and HIV. If the exposure is to a potential infection from HIV, prophylaxis treatment is most effective if started within 1 to 2 hours. A student may also have follow-up testing for HIV, according to the physician's recommendations. Information concerning the HIV status of the student and any portion of the medical records will be kept confidential and will not be released without written consent. Student may also be eligible for follow-up testing for HIV after 6 weeks. Provided that the medical provider listed below is utilized, post-exposure treatment expenses will be covered by the department in which the student's coursework or research was being performed. Expenses for additional tests and medication other than what is recommended by the physician will be at the student's expense.

Arrangements have been made through Concentra Medical Center so that the student does not incur any out-of-pocket expense for the initial counseling/treatment/testing and in some cases the six-week follow-up visit. If the student chooses to go to another medical facility, the student will incur all cost associated with initial testing and any required follow-up testing. When the person checks in at the clinic, the individual should indicate that he/she is a student of UTA, describe the type of injury, and how exactly the injury occurred.

Concentra Medical Center

511 E. I-20, Arlington, (817) 261-5166

2160 E. Lamar Ave., Arlington, (972) 988-0441

2500 W. Freeway, Suite 100, (I-30 @ Forest Park) Ft. Worth, (817) 882-8700

811 NE Alsbury Blvd., Suite 800, Burleson, (817) 293-7311

Reporting Procedure

The supervisor or PI overseeing the student's coursework or research should submit an [Injury/Illness Reporting Form for Students and Visitors](#) (Form CO-EHS-F414) to the Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) Office via electronic mail ehsafety@uta.edu or via fax (817) 272-2144 within 24 hours from notification of the incident exposure. The original should be mailed to EH&S Office via campus mail at Box 19257.

The student is required to complete the [Injury/Illness Reporting Form for Students and Visitors](#) (Form CO-EHS-F414) within 24 hours of reporting the incident exposure. The original should be mailed to EH&S Office via campus mail at Box 19257.



Information concerning the HIV status of student and any portion of a medical record will be kept confidential and will not be released without written consent, except where release is required or authorized by law.

Additional Information

If there are any questions, please contact EH&S Office at (817) 272-2185.

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