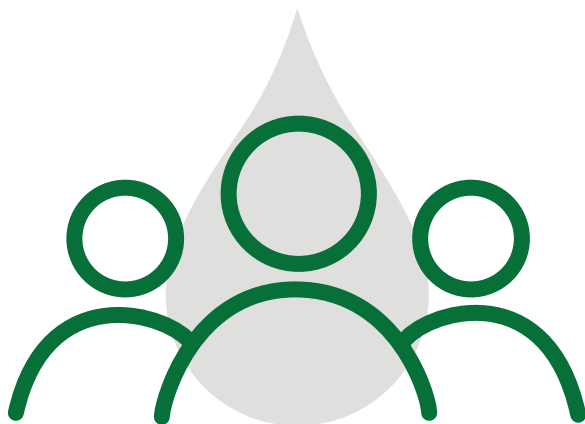


WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF EXPOSURE TO BLOOD?

A PERSON EXPOSED TO BLOOD
MUST GO TO EMERGENCY AS
SOON AS POSSIBLE



**Everybody's blood should always
be considered as potentially infected**

PUT A COPY OF THIS CARD
IN THE FIRST AID KIT

1 • GIVING OR RECEIVING FIRST AID

Exposure of the skin

- Clean the wound as quickly as possible, using soap and water;
- Rinse the exposed area with water.

Avoid

- scrubbing the wound;
- using a solution that can be an irritant to the skin (containing alcohol);
- applying pressure to make the wound bleed.

Doing these things could make blood vessels in the wounded tissues more permeable, and so raises the possible risk of transmission.

Exposure of mucous membranes

(eyes, lips, mouth, inside the nose)

- Rinse with water as quickly as possible.

2 • SAFELY DISPOSE OF THE OBJECT (syringe, blade, etc.)

3 • NOTIFY THE PERSON IN CHARGE, WHO WILL

- take care of the person who has been exposed;
- note down the contact information of the person who is the potential contaminator and give this information to the staff in the emergency department.

4 • GO TO EMERGENCY AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE

**Ideally, you should be seen within
2 hours of the exposure.**

5 • BRING THE VACCINATION BOOKLET (or the health booklet)

6 • TELL THE RECEPTIONIST THAT THIS IS A CASE OF OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE TO BLOOD

7 • GET A MEDICAL ASSESSMENT OF THE EXPOSURE:

If considered not at risk:

- Discharge: no other intervention necessary.

If considered at risk:

- Investigation: blood tests for the person injured and the person who is the potential contaminator; assess immunization;
- Treatment: antibodies, vaccine or medications, information, follow-up tests and treatments;

TREATMENTS

HEPATITIS B

IF NOT VACCINATED:

Antibody injection or first dose of vaccine*

IF VACCINATED: Depends on proof of vaccine effectiveness

HEPATITIS C

No effective preventive treatment

AIDS

There are medications, but there are many side effects; therefore, they are selectively prescribed.

Increasingly proven effective.

*if vaccination is recommended, ensure that the doctor has prescribed all the necessary doses (three in all) on the medical assessment.



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