



Procedure for Occupational Exposure to Blood/Body Fluids

As used by Registered Medical Officers and Approved Health Care Workers - RHH

First Aid Management of Injured person:

- Ensure immediate environment is safe (dispose of any substance that may cause harm)
- If skin is penetrated wash the area well with soap and running water
- IF blood gets on skin, irrespective of cuts or abrasions, wash well with soap and water
- If the eyes are contaminated, rinse the area gently but thoroughly with water or normal saline, while the eyes are open
- If blood gets in the mouth, spit it out and then rinse the mouth with water several times

It is NOT RECOMMENDED to squeeze the puncture site after sustaining a sharps injury or induce vomiting after swallowing blood or body fluids.

Normal reporting and documentation procedures should then be followed.

Standards this procedure applies to include:

1. The Infection Control Guidelines for the Prevention of Transmission of Infectious Diseases in the Health care setting 2004
2. ACHS EQulP (2006): Safe Practice and Environment 3.2.1- 'Safety management systems ensure safety and wellbeing for consumers/patients, staff, visitors and contractors'