

Management of Sharps and Needlestick Injuries or other exposure to Blood or Body Fluids for staff working in General Dental Practices in Lanarkshire

Immediate First Aid

BLEED IT – encourage the wound to bleed. DO NOT suck the area.

CLEAN IT – wash the area thoroughly with soap and running water without scrubbing the area.

COVER AREA with waterproof dressing, irrigate splashes to mouth, eyes or broken skin thoroughly with water.

DO NOT swallow mouth rinsing water. Remove contact lenses, if worn, before rinsing eyes.

Injured Member of Dental Team

Immediately report incident to the clinical person in charge, or their deputy, in the dental team who will arrange a rapid risk assessment of the source patient for Blood Borne Virus (BBV) risk factors by completing the risk assessment forms in the Response Pack for managing occupational exposures. These forms are used in conjunction with NHS Lanarkshire's BBV exposure prevention and management policy.

Actions for Risk Assessor

Inform the source patient of the incident and complete the risk assessment using the forms in the Response Pack. During office hours phone Salus Occupational Health (OH) and out of hours phone the nearest NHS Lanarkshire Accident & Emergency (A&E) department for advice on further action regarding the outcome of the risk assessment. The completed risk assessment form MUST accompany the member of staff to either Salus OH or A&E.

Seek consent to arrange for the source patient to be tested as soon as possible for blood borne viruses (HIV, Hepatitis B and C) by their own General Practitioner (GP) if the GP agrees or by the clinical service at the Lanarkshire HIV, AIDS and Hepatitis Centre (LHAHC) at University Hospital Monklands (see telephone numbers below).

Ensure the source patient's records have up-to-date contact telephone numbers (landline and mobile) and details of their General Practitioner.

If incident is assessed as LOW Risk

Arrange for the injured member of dental team to attend Salus OH service during normal working hours for blood sample to be taken for STORAGE ONLY; to report & record the details of incident and arrange any appropriate follow-up.

If incident is assessed as HIGH Risk

If incident is considered HIGH RISK for BBV, the injured member of the dental team should attend the nearest NHS Lanarkshire A&E department as soon as possible so that drug treatment, if indicated, can be started (ideally within 60 minutes of the incident occurring).

Contact Telephone Numbers

Salus Occupational Health (Monday-Friday 08:30 -16:30)

Beckford Street, Hamilton: 01698 206336

University Hospital Hairmyres: 01355 585360

University Hospital Monklands: 01236 712425

University Hospital Wishaw: 01698 366770

A&E Departments

University Hospital Hairmyres: 01355 584700

University Hospital Monklands: 01236 748748

University Hospital Wishaw: 01698 366614

Lanarkshire HIV, AIDS and

Hepatitis Centre (LHAHC): 01236 712247 or 01236 712246

DETAILS OF THE INCIDENT AND INJURY SUSTAINED SHOULD BE RECORDED IN THE DENTAL PRACTICE ACCIDENT BOOK