

### **Procedures to Follow After a Potential BBP Exposure**

Exposed students should wash the area thoroughly (soap and water if skin, water if eyes) and notify their supervisor of the incident immediately. If a supervisor is not immediately available, they should contact the Employee Health office without delay.

Any student that experiences an exposure incident will be offered an immediate medical evaluation, post-exposure evaluation and follow-up in accordance with the OSHA standard. Post-exposure follow-up will be provided (or in some cases arranged) by the USC School of Medicine Employee Health Service. Management will include counseling regarding risks, evaluation of the medical risk and of reported illnesses, and treatment and follow-up as indicated.

The USC School of Medicine Employee/Student Health office shall be contacted immediately following an exposure to blood and/or body fluids. The contact numbers for the USC School of Medicine Employee/Student Health office, **in order of preference**, are:

- Jennifer Evans, LPN: office 803-216-3374 cell 618-559-0419

The exposed student may or may not need to present in person to the Employee/Student Health office, depending on the nature of the exposure and the availability of the 'source patient' for testing.

Students with exposures occurring after 4:00 p.m., on weekends or holidays, or in a facility other than the USC School of Medicine, should immediately report the exposure to the supervisor/charge nurse and follow institutional policies for notifying the appropriate employee health, infection control, or clinical administrator of the facility in which the individual is working. The USC School of Medicine Employee Health office should be notified of the exposure as soon as possible.

For students rotating at the Dorn Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center (DVAMC) or Florence, specific instructions are:

**1. Dorn Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center (DVAMC):**

During working hours, the student should immediately report to the Employee Health Clinic (call ext. 6530 or pager 084, Room 1B116 (Bldg 22) for evaluation and treatment. After working hours, report to the DVAMC Urgent Care. If there is a problem receiving treatment at the Urgent Care, the student should call the Medical Officer of the Day (MOD) directly or by asking the operator to page him/her.

As soon as possible on the next business day, the student should notify Jennifer Evans LPN the employee health nurse at the USC School of Medicine Employee/Student Health Office (803 216-3374 cell 618-559-0419).

**2. McLeod Regional Medical Center, Carolinas Hospital System, or Private Offices**

During work hours, the student should report immediately to McLeod Occupational Health office at 843-777-5146. If an exposure occurs after hours or on a weekend, the student should report to the McLeod Emergency Department or McLeod Urgent Care (843-777-6870).

As soon as possible on the next business day, the student should notify Jennifer Evans LPN the student health nurse at the USC School of Medicine Employee/Student Health Office (803 216-3374; cell 618-559-0419).

Regardless of the location of care, medical students should identify themselves **specifically as USC SOM medical students** seeking evaluation and treatment for education-related exposures.

#### **Collection and testing of blood from Source Patients for HCV, HBV and HIV**

In order to properly evaluate a student following an exposure to potentially infectious blood or body fluid, testing for blood-borne pathogen infection should be conducted on the “source patient,” assuming the source of the exposure is known. Each clinical department should have a protocol to follow that includes testing of the “source patient” for infection with HIV, hepatitis B, and hepatitis C. The student’s supervisor and/or clinical staff in the department should be able to ensure that the proper tests are ordered without delay. The source patient tests to order are:

- Rapid HIV antibody
- Hepatitis B surface antigen
- Hepatitis C antibody

If there are any questions regarding what tests should be ordered or how to order them, or if the student is unable to find a supervisor or clinical employee who can order the needed tests, he/she should call the USC School of Medicine Employee/Student Health nurse right away at 803-216-3374 or cell 618-559-0419. To expedite the process, the student should know the patient’s name and medical record number.

#### **Post-Exposure Collection and testing of blood from Student for HCV, HBV and HIV**

Testing the student is not necessary unless the source patient tests positive for a blood-borne infection. If the source patient tests positive for one of the above infections, the exposed employee’s blood shall be collected as soon as feasible and tested.

Post-exposure prophylaxis, when medically indicated, will be provided as recommended by the U.S. Public Health Service.