



Procedure

Saskatoon & Area - Occupational Health & Safety

Number: 60-002-3

Title: Blood or Body Fluid Exposures

Saskatchewan Employment Act:

OHS Regulation: 6-22

Date: January 1, 2017

Date Revised/Reaffirmed: December 30, 2021

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Purpose

To purpose of this procedure is to establish the process to follow in the event of a Blood or Body Fluid (BBF) exposure

Procedure

In the event of a BBF exposure, the SHA – Saskatoon & Area worker will:

- Review the SHA – Saskatoon & Area Staff [Blood or Body Fluid Exposure Assessment Tool](#)

Step 1. Determine if a BBF exposure has occurred:

The fluid contacted the exposed person in such a way that would allow for transmission of a Blood Borne Pathogen (BBP) such as:

- An object with the body fluid punctured or broke the skin of the exposed person (e.g., needle stick or cut with a sharp object)
OR
- The fluid came in contact with the mucous membrane (splashes into eyes, nose, or mouth) of the exposed person or onto non-intact skin (e.g., chapped, abraded or afflicted with dermatitis, etc.)

Step 2. Determine if the fluid is capable of transmitting a BBP

These fluid(s)/tissue are capable of transmitting a BBP:

- Lab specimens containing concentrated HIV, HBV or HCV
- Blood serum, plasma or other biological fluids visibly contaminated with blood
- Pleural, amniotic, pericardial, peritoneal, synovial and cerebrospinal fluids, semen and vaginal secretions
- Saliva (HBV)
- Breast milk
- Organ and tissue transplants
- Screened donated blood and manufactured blood products (minimal risk in Canada)

These fluids(s) are not capable of transmitting a BBP (unless they contain visible blood)

- Tears, vomit, urine, feces

Step 3. Complete first aid action and notify your manager/supervisor

Needle poke/sharps puncture/human bite:

- Quickly remove gloves or clothing to determine any injury to the hand(s) or affected body area
- Allow injury to bleed
- Wash the injured area well with soap and water

Splash to eyes/nose/mouth/non-intact skin:

- Flush area well with running water
- For eye splashes, use the nearest eye wash station for 15 minutes

Step 4. Report immediately to the nearest open Emergency Department for BBF exposure assessment if the incident is deemed a BBF exposure

Step 5. Call the SHA – Saskatoon & Area Safety Alert System (SAS) or Incident Report Line (IRL) to report your incident as a BBF exposure after you have been assessed in the Emergency Department

SHA – Saskatoon & Area SAS Contact Numbers

- Saskatoon: 306-655-1600
- Rural (Toll-Free): 1-844-655-1600

SHA – Saskatoon & Area IRL Contact Numbers

- Saskatoon: 306-655-0820
- Rural (Toll-Free): 1-866-966-0820

Source Patient Bloodwork

- When a BBF exposure occurs in a department/area and the worker is directed to the nearest open Emergency Department as per the SHA – Saskatoon & Area Staff [BBF Exposure Assessment Tool](#), the **source patient** will be asked to remain in the department until the worker returns from the Emergency Department. The Emergency physician will determine if baseline blood work is required from the source patient.
- In departments/community setting where the source patient has left the area/building, the Emergency Physician will determine if baseline blood work is required from the source patient.

Non-Compliance/Breach:

Non-compliance with this policy will result in a review of the incident. A review for non-compliance may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment or privileges; fines and /or prosecution of individuals under the Saskatchewan Employment Act and OHS Regulations.

Resources

- [BBF Exposure Assessment Tool](#)

Review Dates:

January 1, 2017

June 26, 2018

August 8, 2018

May 9, 2019

December 30, 2021