

STUDENT INJURY PROCEDURES (rev 2/20/24)

Purpose

1. To inform students, clinical faculty, and academic faculty regarding the correct procedure for reporting student clinical accidents/incidents.
2. To standardize the procedures for reporting student clinical accidents/incidents.
3. To provide a standardized check sheet and forms, including deadlines for notifications, and completion of forms.

Introduction

Student accidents and incidents in the clinical/practicum/internship setting are unfortunate, but not uncommon. Due to the nature of the clinical/practicum/internship setting, there is the potential for exposure to bloodborne pathogens and other potentially infectious materials, as well as the potential for other physical injuries (i.e.; chemical/ thermal burns, trauma to the extremities, injury as a result of seizure activity, cardiac/respiratory failure or arrest, etc.)

In addition, for accidents/incidents involving contaminated sharps, a series of tests for HIV and Hepatitis B and C is indicated. A blood sample for testing HIV and Hepatitis B and C should be obtained from the patient whose blood or body fluid is present on the contaminated instrument, if possible. Specific consent must be obtained from that individual prior to testing. In addition, baseline testing on the student for HIV, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C should be initiated within 24 hours of the accident/incident.

Students who are injured in the clinical setting will meet with someone in the Dean of Health Professions office as soon as possible. The office personnel will complete the appropriate paperwork requested and give copies to the student. The student will be directed to visit one of the Care Express facilities that have been approved for Post Exposure Treatment. The follow-up testing schedule is as follows as well as the forms needed to be completed and where they are routed.

When?	What Labs?
Initial Baseline Labs (within 24 hours of incident)	Acute Hepatitis Panel, Hep B Ab(antibody-IgG), Hep B Ag (antigen), HIV and ALT
6 Weeks Labs Post Exposure	Acute Hepatitis Panel, Hep B Ab (antibody-IgG), Hep B Ag (antigen), HIV and ALT
3 Month Labs Post Exposure	HIV and Hep C Ab (antibody)
6 Month Labs Post Exposure	HIV, Hep C, Ab (antibody) and ALT
12 Month Post Exposure Labs	HIV

Forms that will be completed by the Dean's office and where they will be routed.

Form	Where does it go?
Student Information Sheet with Lab Protocols and AC counseling Services Information	Student keeps with them for reference
Care Express Locations and Hours Information Sheet	Student keeps with them for reference
Care Express OccMed Authorization Form	Student takes to the Care Express location
Texas Department of Health (TDH) form	Dean's office submits to TDH
Hartford Claim form	Dean's office submits to Hartford for claim

For more specific guidelines regarding occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens; needlestick and other sharps injuries, please refer to OSHA and Federal Register guidelines at: <http://www.osha.gov> and the US Public Health Service Guidelines for the Management of Occupational Exposures to HBV, HCV, and HIV and Recommendations for Postexposure Prophylaxis at: <http://www.cdc.gov> It is essential that complete documentation be prepared immediately following an incident. A checklist, including responsible parties, reports needed, and time lines are included. For more information regarding occupational injury and illness recording and reporting requirements, please refer to OSHA and Federal Register guidelines at: <http://www.osha.gov>