GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS

IMMEDIATE ACTIONS:

- First Aid. Gently squeeze wound (do not suck area), wash affected area with soap and water (do not scrub), rinse mucous membranes with warm water (do not swallow water), cover broken skin with waterproof dressing.
- Assess if exposure is significant i.e. penetrating injury/exposure of broken skin/exposure of mucous membranes, including the eye, to blood or other body fluids. If it is a significant injury and you are in an NHS placement contact the NHS provider’s Occupational Health Service for initial risk assessment. If your placement is with a private health care provider, social work service, local authority or other organisation – please follow the procedure used in that setting.
- Ask Nurse/Person in Charge to report the incident to the School via Datix or other appropriate incident reporting system in place.

FOR SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE

A) IF THE SOURCE PATIENT IS IDENTIFIED AND IS KNOWN TO BE POSITIVE TO A BLOOD BORNE VIRUS (HIV +VE, HEPATITIS B and HEPATITIS C)

- Please contact the the Occupational Health Provider for your placement area (Monday – Friday 8.30 am – 4.30 pm). Outwith these hours only please attend the nearest A&E Dept as soon as possible.
- A risk assessment will be carried out. Prophylactic therapy, if indicated will be offered within one hour of contact.

B) IF SOURCE PATIENT IS IDENTIFIED

- Senior doctor or nurse present at the time of the incident
  - Interviews the source patient
  - Completes a risk assessment
  - Obtains informed consent from source patient for a blood sample to be tested for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and HIV. Consent should be documented in the patient’s notes.
  - Sends patient’s blood sample to Virology Laboratory marked “HEPATITIS B, HEPATITIS C & HIV STATUS. Result copied to the Occupational Health provider who reviewed you and NHS Grampian Occupational Health Service, Foresterhill Lea- Tel: (01224) 553663 Details of the incident should be sent to GO Health services who will undertake all follow up required

C) IF SOURCE PATIENT IS UNKNOWN

Contact the placement area’s Occupational Health provider to arrange an appointment as a blood sample for storage is required and a risk assessment will be carried out regarding follow up.

You must also contact the University as soon as possible, and preferably within 36 hours, to report the incident. Any subsequent follow up will be provided by GO Health Services i.e. blood samples at 3 & 6 months.