POLICY ON RESIDENT OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURES

Policy Statement

Residents may be exposed to infectious agents in the course of their patient care and medical education through contact, inhalation, or percutaneous routes. Residents are required to complete training in OSHA Standard Precautions at the start of their residency training and annually thereafter. The attached procedure details the process through which residents should seek evaluation and treatment for occupational exposures and for reporting such exposures to the University Risk Management Office.

Who Needs to Know This Policy

All Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)-accredited residency and fellowship programs sponsored by the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS)

Policy Contact

Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education, DIO

Who Approved This Policy

Graduate Medical Education Committee (GMEC)

History/Revision Dates

Approved by GMEC: April 20, 2015
Policy/Procedures

In the event of resident exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens, post-exposure evaluation and treatment evaluation will be provided at no cost to the resident.

Procedures to follow if you have a needlestick or blood/body fluid exposure:

1. In the event of blood/body fluid exposure occurs, stop all activity and perform immediate first aid:
   - Percutaneous or cutaneous: Wash with soap and water.
   - Mucous membrane: Flush with water for 3-5 minutes.

2. Notify the supervisor or charge nurse and send the source patient’s blood to the lab for testing. In order to prevent the patients from being billed do NOT order labs in Cerner. Rapid HIV will be automatically done by the Lab. Employee Health or the Emergency Department will order all other tests.

3. Report in person to GWU Hospital Employee Health, Suite G1029 in the GWU Hospital during normal business hours for evaluation and completion of incident forms.
   - An incident report must be filed immediately, using the online report form, which can be found at this site: [http://risk.gwu.edu/incident-reporting](http://risk.gwu.edu/incident-reporting)
   - Click on the “webform” link and complete the form.
   - Note there is a section for Webform FAQ’s which can be accessed along the left hand side or from the Incident Reporting dropdown menu.

4. If the exposure occurs when Employee Health is closed:
   - Report to the Emergency Department. Labs will be drawn for HIV, HBsAb & Hep C. If starting PEP therapy, they will also draw a CBC & CMP.
   - Complete the online incident report immediately: [http://risk.gwu.edu/incident-reporting](http://risk.gwu.edu/incident-reporting)
   - Report in person to GWU Employee Health no later than the next business day for evaluation and follow up. Bring all Emergency Department documents and source patient information.

5. If the exposure occurs when you are on rotation at another hospital:
   - Follow the guidelines for the hospital and report to their Employee Health Office or the Emergency Department as appropriate.
   - Complete the online incident report immediately: [http://risk.gwu.edu/incident-reporting](http://risk.gwu.edu/incident-reporting)
   - Report in person to GWU Employee Health no later than the next business day for evaluation and follow up. Bring all lab results and source patient documentation.
   - If you receive a bill for services, submit the bill to the GME Office.