

# University of Colorado School of Medicine @ Colorado State University

## Needlestick and Body Fluid Exposure Process

A bloodborne pathogen exposure is one that might place you at risk for HBV, HCV, or HIV infection and is defined as a percutaneous injury (e.g., a needlestick or cut with a sharp object) or contact of mucous membrane or non-intact skin (e.g., exposed skin that is chapped, abraded, or afflicted with dermatitis) with blood, tissue, or other body fluids that are potentially infectious. Prompt treatment is essential because, in some cases, post exposure treatment may be recommended, and it should be started as soon as possible.

On-line Resource Information:

- CDC's Exposure to Blood, <http://www.cdc.gov/hai/>
- Mountain Plains AIDS Education & Training Center's PEP Steps, <https://mwaetc.org/>

Workers' Compensation applies to CU Employees: CU employees include CU faculty, staff, paid student workers, residents and fellows. Workers' Compensation may also apply to students in any of the following: internships, dental clinic, clinical rotations or practicums.

### **Individuals with an exposure should follow the steps below:**

#### *1. Seek Treatment (Source Labs):*

- **If at a UCHealth facility:** Go to UCHealth Employee Health or call UCHealth Employee Health 855.945.3668 to determine your location of care (Employee Health/ED/etc.)
- **If you are at a non-UCHealth facility or after hours:** Go to the nearest urgent care facility or medical emergency room. (UCHealth Virtual Care is not available to students).

#### *2. Reporting:*

- Report the injury/illness immediately to your clinic supervisor and your curriculum director and coordinator.
- You must file a workers' compensation Needlestick or Body Fluid Exposure Report Risk Form within 10 days of the injury/exposure. Report the incident on the URM website (<https://www.cu.edu/risk/file-claim>).
  - If you have completed a report at the hospital or clinic where the incident occurred, you can fax or email their incident report form directly to 303-860-5680 or [urm@cu.edu](mailto:urm@cu.edu) in lieu of completing the CU on-line form.

#### *3. Follow up Care/Treatment*

- Choose one of the [CU Designated Medical Providers](#) (i.e. UCHealth Occupational Medicine). Care may be continued at the designated clinic.

## Medical Bill Payment

By completing the Risk Form Report expenses regarding the incident will be covered by CU.  
Request that all bills from medical providers be sent to URM. Forward all bills you receive to URM.

### ***University Risk Management***

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Phone: 303-860-5682 or 888-812-9601

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