



Procedures for contact with blood or body fluids

Work Health and Safety Directorate

Rapid response is required if there is exposure to blood or body fluids, including injuries sustained through needle stick/sharps penetrations of the skin.

If an employee or student believes they have been exposed to blood or body fluids, including injuries sustained through needle stick/sharps penetrations of the skin, the following action should be taken:

1. Wash away the blood or body fluid with soap and running water immediately, or as soon as possible after contamination for a period of at least 30 seconds.
2. If the eyes are contaminated, rinse eyes while opened with tap water or a saline solution.
3. If blood gets into the mouth, spit it out and then repeatedly rinse with running water.
4. After carrying out the appropriate first aid measures outlined above, report the incident to the workplace manager.
5. Employees should be referred immediately to a doctor or hospital for risk assessment and if necessary, appropriate testing, treatment and skilled counselling.
6. In the case of school students or TAFE students who are under 18, the workplace manager should ensure that parents/carers are advised to immediately contact a doctor or hospital for risk assessment of the student and, if necessary, appropriate testing, treatment and skilled counselling.

Parents/carers should be advised in a manner that maintains confidentiality of any employees and/or students.

7. Report WHS incidents and injuries to the DEC Incident and Injury Hotline (1800 811 523).

Further information

Contact your WHS team
or ring **1800 811 523**

Infection control procedures