

College of Nursing and Health Professions

HIV/HBV GUIDELINES FOR ON-CAMPUS LABORATORY AND CLINICAL SETTINGS

In accordance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, schools must provide equal treatment to persons who have contracted the HIV/HBV virus. Furthermore, schools may not discriminate against any individual based on the perception that he/she is infected.

TRANSMISSION INFORMATION

All CNHP students and faculty will employ Standard Precautions while in the clinical setting. CNHP students will receive instruction and annual evaluation regarding transmission of blood-borne pathogens and the use of Standard Precautions. The Infection Control Committee will coordinate instruction on Standard Precautions for faculty on an annual basis. It will be the responsibility of faculty members to document annual instruction through the Infection Control Committee.

POLICY

Students, faculty, and staff with HIV/HBV, or any significant blood borne pathogen, should be allowed equal access, as long as their medical condition permits, to university facilities or campus activities, including participation in clinical experiences or other academic and social activities offered by the university.

All confidential medical information is protected by statute and any unauthorized disclosure may create legal liability. The duty of the health care providers to protect this confidentiality is superseded by the necessity to protect others in very specific circumstances.

An infected student/faculty who is symptomatic may be excluded from providing direct client care, determined on a CASE-BY-CASE basis by the Infection Control Committee. In addition, should an individual sero-convert and express concern regarding clinical practice, the committee will convene to review the case.

Students may be asked to serve as source partners in on-campus laboratories for procedures involving needle sticks or other forms of vascular access. For criteria related to laboratory participation, see the specific program handbook.

EXPOSURE (Laboratory and Clinical Settings)

Students and faculty in the College of Nursing and Health Professions may be exposed to blood borne pathogens such as HIV and HBV. In the clinical and classroom laboratory settings, students/faculty are expected to utilize Standard Precautions, hand washing and protective clothing/gear to prevent contact with blood and other potentially infectious materials.

Exposure incident means a specific eye, mouth, other mucous membrane, non-intact skin, or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious material that results from one's duties as a CNHP student or faculty member. An exposure incident involving a student/faculty member in the CNHP, while in a clinical facility or campus laboratory is treated in a similar manner to any type of accident occurring within the agency.

On-Campus Laboratory or Clinical Setting: Blood Borne Pathogen Post Exposure Protocol

Should a student or faculty member be exposed to blood borne pathogen in an on-campus laboratory or clinical setting, the following post-exposure protocol is recommended:

1. The student will notify the faculty member supervising the learning experience. If the exposed individual is a faculty member, he/she will notify the chairperson of the specific program in the CNHP.

2. As soon as possible following the exposure, the college incident form will be completed by the faculty member/student.
3. The exposed individual will be referred to the Student Health Center for evaluation if the event occurs during operating hours. If the exposure occurs when the Health Center is closed, the faculty member will determine the individual's primary care options and refer the person to those resources.
4. It is suggested that the post-exposure protocol be managed by the individual's primary care provider at the individual's expense.
5. If there is a delay in reporting an exposure incident, it is recommended that the same protocol be followed.

Off-Campus Laboratory or Clinical Setting: Blood Borne Pathogen Post Exposure Protocol

If a student/faculty member is exposed to blood or other potentially infectious materials in the off campus setting, this Blood Borne Pathogen protocol is to be followed.

1. The student will notify the clinical faculty. If the exposed individual is a faculty member, s/he will notify the chairperson of the specific program at the CNHP.
2. The student, clinical faculty or chairperson will notify the supervisor of the area where the exposure occurred. Thereafter, post-exposure protocols for the clinical institution will be followed.
3. The infection control staff member/epidemiologist of the clinical facility will be notified of the exposure immediately by the student or if possible by the clinical faculty member. If a faculty member has been exposed, this individual will notify the infection control staff/epidemiologist.
4. As soon as possible following a report of an exposure incident the clinical faculty and infection control staff/epidemiologist should provide the student with counseling about an immediate confidential medical evaluation and follow-up at the student's expense. In the case of a faculty member's exposure, the individual is expected to communicate directly with the infection control staff/epidemiologist. The medical evaluation and follow-up should include, at a minimum, the following requirements:

(a) Documentation of the route(s) of exposure and the circumstances under which the exposure incident occurred.

(b) Identification and documentation of the source individual unless the clinical facility staff establishes that the identification is infeasible or prohibited by state or local law.

(1) The source individual's blood shall be tested as soon as possible after consent is obtained in order to determine HBV and HIV infectivity. If consent is not obtained, the clinical facility shall establish that the source individual's consent cannot be obtained. When the source individual's consent is not required by law, the source individual's blood shall be tested and the results documented.

(2) When the source individual is already known to be infected with HIV or HBV, testing for the source individual's HIV or HBV status need not be repeated.

(3) Results of the source individual's testing shall be made available to the exposed individual who should also be informed of applicable laws and regulations concerning disclosure of the identity and infectious status of the source individual.

(c) The exposed student/faculty member's blood should be tested as soon as possible.

(d) It is suggested that the post-exposure protocol be managed by the student/faculty member's personal healthcare provider.

CNHP
Infection Control Committee
8/18/2006

The ASU Speech and Hearing Center and Department of Communication Disorders will provide in-service to clinical practicum students regarding the Hepatitis-B vaccine and, as stated in Section II.F. of the Clinic Handbook, if a student declines the Hepatitis vaccine, the following form is required (see next page).

Hepatitis-B Vaccination Declination

Date: _____
Student Clinician Name: _____
Social Security Number: _____

I understand that due to my occupational exposure to blood and other potential infectious materials, I may be at risk of acquiring the Hepatitis-B Virus (HBV). I have been given the opportunity to be vaccinated with the Hepatitis vaccine. I decline the Hepatitis-B vaccination offered through the Communication Disorders Program at Arkansas State University (at a reduced charge) at this time. I understand that by declining this vaccine, I continue to be at risk of acquiring Hepatitis-B, a serious disease. If, in the future, I continue to have occupational exposure to blood and other infectious materials and I want to be vaccinated with the Hepatitis-B vaccine, I can retract this declination and receive the vaccination series through the Communication Disorders Program of ASU according to their academic/clinical vaccination schedule or acquire the series privately.

Student Clinician Signature

Date

Departmental Designee

Date