

NOTICE

PRECAUTIONS FOR CONTACT WITH HUMAN BLOOD

1 PRECAUTIONS TO PREVENT CONTACT

- Wear disposable gloves whenever contact with human blood is likely or possible. Avoid contact with blood particularly if your own hands or lower arms have open cuts or unhealed wounds.
- Handle and dispose of needles and sharp instruments correctly, eg don't re-cap needles; dispose of used sharps in sharps containers.

2 WHAT TO DO AFTER ACCIDENTAL CONTACT WITH HUMAN BLOOD

- Wash hands, lower arms and any other bodily parts in contact with, or splashed by blood. Thorough washing with soap and water is adequate.
- Rinse eyes gently but thoroughly with water while the eyes are open.
- If blood gets in the mouth, spit it out and then rinse the mouth with water several times.
- In the case of a needlestick injury involving exposure to human blood, proceed without delay to the University Health Service or nearest large hospital casualty department for risk assessment and treatment.
- Place blood-stained waste materials in a plastic bag and seal for disposal or incineration.
- In an emergency, instruments can be effectively decontaminated by soaking them for 30 minutes in household bleach. (See manufacturer's instructions on label for appropriate concentration for disinfection).
- Wipe down desks, equipment or other bloodied areas with cold tap water and then with household bleach (sodium hypochlorite) freshly diluted 1 to 5 with water.

NSW Needlestick Hotline: 1800 804 823