

Roles and responsibilities regarding sharps and needlestick injuries for clinical placement students.

Schools in the Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences to:

- a. ensure each placement provider has a documented procedure in place for the management and reporting of sharps and needle stick injuries and that there is a mechanism of conveying the information to placement students;
- b. ensure that each placement student is provided with instructions to follow the placement provider's procedure for sharps and needlestick injuries whilst on placement
- c. ensure that each student is made aware of the University Occupational Health's guidance on the action to be taken in the event of needlestick/sharps injuries [add link to Occ Health documents]
- d. ensure that the placement students have suitable practical skills for the work experience;
- e. provide appropriate support to any placement student who is injured by a sharp known to be, or suspected of being, contaminated with a blood-borne virus (BBV), e.g. hepatitis B or C or HIV;
- f. regularly review the number of injuries reported by their placement provider;
- g. obtain reassurance that the placement provider can discharge the responsibilities described below.

Clinical Placement provider, as per the Health and Safety (Sharp Instruments in Healthcare) Regulations 2013 to:

- a. monitor the number of sharps and needlestick injuries reported by medical placement students;
- b. evaluate the risk of blood borne virus infection from the patient and take a sample from patient and placement student for testing if deemed necessary in the event of an injury;
- c. ensure employee has immediate access to medical advice in the event of a sharp/needlestick injury;
- d. offer post-exposure prophylaxis and any other medical treatment as advised by a doctor;
- e. consider whether counselling would be appropriate for the employee;
- f. report to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995 (RIDDOR) if a placement student is injured by a sharp known to be, or suspected of being, contaminated with a blood-borne virus as a dangerous occurrence;
- g. inform University Occupational Health of the results of any samples being tested to evaluate for its blood borne virus status;

University Occupational Health to:

- a. carry out an initial health screening and provide suitable vaccinations;
- b. regularly provide a report on the number of sharps and needlestick injuries to the relevant Schools;
- c. to follow up any reported accident with injured placement student to provide medical counselling and support, and any relevant additional screening or treatment which may be required.

University Safety Services to:

- a. inform the School and University Occupational Health of any relevant accidents if these have not been reported through the correct channels as described above.