

## Useful references for potential occupational exposures to blood-borne pathogens

### Policies and guidelines

Title	Access	Comments
<b>South Eastern Sydney Local Health District procedure</b>		
<i>Occupational Exposure: Health Care Workers Potentially Exposed to Human Immunodeficiency Virus, Hepatitis B and/or Hepatitis C- Management of.</i> SESLHDPR/217	<a href="http://www.seslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/Policies_Procedures_Guidelines/Clinical/Infection_Control/Documents/SESLHDPR217_OccupationalExposureHealthCareWorker.pdf">http://www.seslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/Policies_Procedures_Guidelines/Clinical/Infection_Control/Documents/SESLHDPR217_OccupationalExposureHealthCareWorker.pdf</a>	This procedure is for staff members of SESLHD 2014 – Currently under review
<b>NSW Health Department policies</b>		
NSW Health. <i>HIV, hepatitis B and hepatitis C - Management of health care workers potentially exposed.</i> PD2017_010	<a href="http://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/pds/ActivePDS/Documents/PD2017_010.pdf">http://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/pds/ActivePDS/Documents/PD2017_010.pdf</a>	The current NSW Health policy on managing exposures
<i>Occupational Assessment, Screening and Vaccination against Specified Infectious Diseases</i> PD2011_005	<a href="http://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/PDS/pages/doc.aspx?dn=PD2011_005">http://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/PDS/pages/doc.aspx?dn=PD2011_005</a>	Provides a framework for immunisation and screening of health care workers, other clinical personnel and students to minimise the risk of transmission of Diphtheria, Measles, Hepatitis B, Pertussis, Mumps, Varicella, Tetanus, Rubella, Tuberculosis and Influenza (recommended)
<i>Hepatitis B vaccination policy.</i> PD2005_222 Issued 25/10/2001	<a href="http://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/pds/ActivePDS/Documents/PD2005_222.pdf">http://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/pds/ActivePDS/Documents/PD2005_222.pdf</a>	Specifies how and when specific groups of persons are to be offered Hepatitis B vaccine. (Note this does not include health workers)
<i>HIV, Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C - Health Care Workers Infected.</i> PD2005_162	<a href="http://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/PDS/pages/doc.aspx?dn=PD2005_162">http://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/PDS/pages/doc.aspx?dn=PD2005_162</a>	Issued in 1999. Specifies recommendations for testing of health workers doing exposure prone procedures and restrictions on health workers infected with HIV, hepatitis B or hepatitis C. Not substantially different to the more current national policy. Both are more conservative than current policies in the UK, for example, which have relaxed some restrictions. The national policy is under revision.

<i>Infection Prevention and Control Policy. Policy Directive PD2017_013</i>	<a href="http://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/pds/Pages/doc.aspx?dn=PD2017_013">http://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/pds/Pages/doc.aspx?dn=PD2017_013</a>	Outlines the broad principles of infection control. Most clinical health professionals are obliged to comply with this policy as requirements for their registration
<i>Sharps Injuries - Prevention in the NSW Public Health System Department. PD2007_052</i>	<a href="http://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/PDS/pages/doc.aspx?dn=PD2007_052">http://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/PDS/pages/doc.aspx?dn=PD2007_052</a>	Assists organisations to develop a sharps injury prevention program utilising a risk management framework. Also provides guidance to meet OHS legal obligations with regards to sharps injuries
<i>Consent to Medical Treatment - Patient Information. PD2005_406</i>	<a href="http://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/PDS/pages/doc.aspx?dn=PD2005_406">http://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/PDS/pages/doc.aspx?dn=PD2005_406</a>	Outlines consent needed for treatment. Note that "Any treatment involving testing for HIV" comes under the category of "Major treatment"
<b>NSW Nurses Association</b>		
<i>Policy on HIV/AIDS and Other Blood Borne Pathogens.</i>	<a href="http://www.nswnma.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/Policy-on-HIV-AIDS-and-Other-Blood-Borne-Pathogens.pdf">http://www.nswnma.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/Policy-on-HIV-AIDS-and-Other-Blood-Borne-Pathogens.pdf</a>	Re-endorsed 2017. Outlines rights of patients and nurses with regard to blood borne pathogens including testing and managing exposures. While not binding, the Association would support nurses who are attempting to comply with the policy
<b>Australian government policies and guidelines</b>		
Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing <i>National HIV testing policy 2017</i> <i>National hepatitis C testing policy 2017</i> <i>National hepatitis B testing policy 2016</i>	<a href="http://testingportal.ashm.org.au/">http://testingportal.ashm.org.au/</a>	These national policies have been endorsed to replace earlier versions of NSW Health policies so are mandatory for NSW Health staff. They include guidelines on informed consent for testing
Australasian Society of HIV Medicine (ASHM). <i>National guidelines for post-exposure prophylaxis after occupational and non-occupational exposure to HIV: 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. 2016</i>	<a href="http://www.ashm.org.au/products/product/978-1-920773-47-2">http://www.ashm.org.au/products/product/978-1-920773-47-2</a>	Outlines the management of individuals who have been exposed (or suspect they have been exposed) to HIV. There is also a poster, patient information sheet and literature review at this link
National Health and Medical Research Council <i>Australian Immunisation Handbook 10th Edition. Revised 2017</i>	<a href="http://www.immunise.health.gov.au/internet/immunise/publishing.nsf/Content/Handbook10-home">http://www.immunise.health.gov.au/internet/immunise/publishing.nsf/Content/Handbook10-home</a>	Clinical advice for health professionals on the safest and most effective use of vaccines in their practice

National Health and Medical Research Council <i>Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare.</i> 2010	<a href="http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/node/30290">http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/node/30290</a>	Recommendations that outline the critical aspects of infection prevention and control
Communicable Diseases Network Australia <i>Australian national guidelines for the management of health care workers known to be infected with blood-borne viruses.</i> 28 February 2012	<a href="http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publications.nsf/Content/cda-cdna-bloodborne.htm">http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publications.nsf/Content/cda-cdna-bloodborne.htm</a>	Specifies recommendations for testing of health workers doing exposure prone procedures and restrictions on health workers infected with HIV, hepatitis B or hepatitis C. More conservative than current policies in the UK, for example, which have relaxed some restrictions. Currently under revision

#### Useful Australian websites

Cameron S. <i>Guide to Australian HIV laws and policies for healthcare professionals.</i> Australasian Society for HIV Medicine. 2012	<a href="http://hivlegal.ashm.org.au/">http://hivlegal.ashm.org.au/</a>	This resource aims to provide health care workers with information on legal and ethical responsibilities under various laws and regulations related to HIV
Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory. <i>HepBHelp</i>	<a href="http://www.hepbhelp.org.au/">http://www.hepbhelp.org.au/</a>	This website aims to assist Australian GPs in the further investigation and management of patients diagnosed with chronic hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection. Includes a guide to interpreting HBV serology
The Kirby Institute for Infection and Immunity in Society (Australia)	<a href="https://kirby.unsw.edu.au/">https://kirby.unsw.edu.au/</a>	Annual surveillance reports on HIV and hepatitis and other publications