

## 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>		
<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> PD2018_009 Issued 5/3/18	<a href="http://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/pds/ActivePDS/Documents/PD2018_009.pdf">http://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/pds/ActivePDS/Documents/PD2018_009.pdf</a>	Provides a framework for immunisation and screening of health care workers, other clinical personnel and students to minimise the risk of transmission of vaccine preventable diseases
<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.
<i>Infection Prevention and Control Policy.</i> Policy Directive PD2017_013	<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>Work Health and Safety - Blood and Body Substances Occupational Exposure Prevention</i> GL2018_013	<a href="https://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/pds/Pages/doc.aspx?dn=GL2018_013">https://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/pds/Pages/doc.aspx?dn=GL2018_013</a>	Provides guidance in the prevention of risk to staff of occupational exposure to contaminated blood, body substances and needlestick/sharps injuries. It supports NSW Health Agencies in their primary duty of care obligations under the

		Work Health and Safety Act 2011 and Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017
<i>Consent to Medical Treatment - Patient Information.</i> PD2005_406	<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.</i> 2016	<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
Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI). <i>Australian Immunisation Handbook</i> , Australian Government Department of Health, Canberra, 2018	<a href="https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/">https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/</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="https://nhmrc.gov.au/about-us/publications/australian-guidelines-prevention-and-control-infection-healthcare-2010">https://nhmrc.gov.au/about-us/publications/australian-guidelines-prevention-and-control-infection-healthcare-2010</a>	Recommendations that outline the critical aspects of infection prevention and control. Currently being updated

Communicable Diseases Network Australia <i>Australian National Guidelines for the Management of Healthcare Workers Living with Blood Borne Viruses and Healthcare Workers who Perform Exposure Prone Procedures at Risk of Exposure to Blood Borne Viruses.</i> Australian Government; Department of Health and Ageing. June 2018	<a href="http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publicing.nsf/Content/cda-cdna-bloodborne.htm">http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publicing.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.
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### 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
Hepatitis Australia. <i>Hepatitis B</i>	<a href="https://www.hepatitisaustralia.com/hepatitis-b/">https://www.hepatitisaustralia.com/hepatitis-b/</a>	General information for public and health workers
Hepatitis Australia. <i>How do you get hepatitis C?</i> <i>Hepatitis C tests</i>	<a href="https://www.hepatitisaustralia.com/prevent-hep-c">https://www.hepatitisaustralia.com/prevent-hep-c</a> <a href="https://www.hepatitisaustralia.com/hep-c-tests">https://www.hepatitisaustralia.com/hep-c-tests</a>	
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