

Percutaneous Puncture Protocol (Needlestick or other puncture injury)

Effective March 2021. Revised Apr 2023, July 2023, Jan 2025

This protocol is to assist any student, faculty, or staff member who receives a percutaneous blood borne injury (aka puncture injury). It is the responsibility of the injured party to report their injury quickly and follow the steps below.

ALL PUNCTURE INJURIES – CLEAN AREA FIRST

1. Remove glove, allow the wound to bleed briefly and freely. Gently wash the wound with soap and water, and bandage if required.
2. Report the injury to your supervisor:
Students = Faculty Instructor; Staff = Direct Supervisor; Faculty = Associate Director, Clinics
3. Complete Western's [Accident/Illness/Incident \(All\) Reporting Form & Investigation Report](#). QR Code here:



4. Submit the completed report within 24 hours to the Manager, Clinic Operations or Clinic Coordinator. This report will be sent to Workplace Health.

DURING OPERATING HOURS (8:30 am – 4:00 pm)

1. Contact Kristine Brown, R.N. at Workplace Health (519) 661-2111, extension 85472 to report the injury. Kristine will provide instructions to come to Workplace Health. If Kristine is unavailable, please contact Workplace Health Reception (519) 661-2111, extension 85569. When possible, the source patient should accompany the injured party to Workplace Health in SSB, room 4159.
2. If the source patient is unable to accompany the injured party to Workplace Health, provide them with the test requisition package (available at Main Clinic Dispensary) to bring to any lab to obtain the recommended blood tests.
3. Workplace Health will continue to follow up with the injured party.

AFTER HOURS OR IF WORKPLACE HEALTH IS UNAVAILABLE

1. **The student must seek a medical consultation and have bloodwork drawn within 72 hours of the incident.** They may either connect with Workplace Health (ie: if injury occurred on a Friday, they could go on the following Monday, provided Monday is not a holiday) OR go to the ER for a consultation and bloodwork. If the source patient's medical and social history might be considered high risk or is known to have HIV, proceed to the ER for immediate management and consultation.
2. **Advise the source patient of your injury and provide them with a test requisition package (available at Main Clinic Dispensary) to bring to any lab to obtain the recommended blood tests.**
3. Email the Manager, Clinic Operations, Clinic Coordinator, and Nurse Manager to communicate the injury and steps taken.