

# Blood or Body Fluid Exposure Procedure (MPAS)

## What is a Blood or Body Fluid (BBF) Exposure?

When a person is exposed to potentially infectious blood or body fluids through:

- Needle prick or sharp instrument injury
- Splash to the eye(s), nose, mouth, and/or non-intact skin
- Human bite

### Step 1. Determine whether a BBF exposure has occurred.

Determine if the body fluid contacted the exposed person in such a way that would allow for transmission of a Blood Borne Pathogen (BBP), including Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), and Hepatitis C Virus (HCV). This would occur through:

- **An object contaminated with the body fluid punctured or broke the skin** of the exposed person (e.g., needle stick or cut with a sharp object); **OR**
- **The body fluid came into contact with the mucous membrane of the eyes, nose, and/or mouth** of the exposed person; **OR**
- **The body fluid came into contact with non-intact skin** (e.g. chapped, abraded or afflicted with dermatitis, etc.) of the exposed person.

**YES, BBF exposure has occurred.**

(Proceed to Step 2)

**NO, BBF exposure has not occurred.** Follow the Incident Reporting processes of the health authority and/or facility to report your incident as a NON-BBF EXPOSURE. ([Link: SHA Incident Reporting Processes](#))

**Proceed to Step 6 to report non-BBF Incident or Near-Miss to USask.**

### Step 2. Determine if the fluid can transmit a BBP (e.g. HIV, HBV, HCV).

The fluids/tissues that **CAN transmit** a BBP:

- Lab specimens containing concentrated HIV, HBV, or HCV
- Blood, serum, plasma, or other biological fluids visibly contaminated with blood
- Pleural, amniotic, pericardial, peritoneal, synovial, and cerebrospinal fluid
- Semen or vaginal secretions
- Breast milk
- Organ and tissues transplants
- Saliva (HBV only)
- Screened and donated blood and manufactured products (minimal risk in Canada)

The fluids that **CANNOT transmit** a BBP (**unless they contain visible blood**):

- Tears
- Vomit
- Urine
- Feces

**YES, fluid can  
transmit a BBP.**

(Proceed to Step 3)

**NO, fluid cannot transmit a BBP.** Follow the Incident Reporting processes of the health authority and/or facility to report your incident as a NON-BBF EXPOSURE. ([Link: SHA Incident Reporting Processes](#))

**Proceed to Step 6 to report Non-BBF Incident or Near-Miss to USask.**

### **Step 3. Complete first aid action and notify the nursing manager/supervisor/senior resident/attending.**

First aid actions for a needle poke, sharps puncture, or human bite:

- quickly remove gloves and/or clothing to determine any injury to the hand(s) or affected body area
- allow and/or promote the injury to bleed
- wash the injured area well with soap and water

First aid actions for a splash to the eyes, nose, mouth, and/or non-intact skin:

- flush area well with running water
- for eye splashes, use the nearest eye wash station for 15 minutes

### **Step 4. Report IMMEDIATELY to the nearest open emergency department for BBF exposure assessment.**

### **Step 5. Follow the appropriate Health Authority (or independent organization) organization processes to report your incident as a BBF Exposure.**

For an incident occurring in an SHA facility, refer to the [SHA Staff Safety - Incident Reporting Processes](#) to report your BBF Exposure.

### **Step 6. Complete a [University of Saskatchewan Incident Report](#) Form and submit to: [safetyresources@usask.ca](mailto:safetyresources@usask.ca) AND [mpas@usask.ca](mailto:mpas@usask.ca)**



**Step 7. Fill out W1, E1, and IWA forms for WCB reporting purposes and email to: [wcb.support@usask.ca](mailto:wcb.support@usask.ca) within 5 days of the incident.**



**Step 8. Student is contacted by MPAS Office to provide support, as required.**



**Step 9. Academic Director, MPAS is contacted to ensure ongoing review of exposure incidents.**