

Inoculation Injuries

What is an inoculation?

An inoculation is a percutaneous (needle stick/other sharps injury), mucocutaneous (contamination to the eyes, nose or mouth) or a human bite or scratch .

Who should I inform ?

Your manager

Occupation Health (if you have a contractual arrangement) / Walk in Centre/ A&E

Ensure **all** relevant information recorded in the accident book/ incident form



Treatment of the wound and contacting the relevant agency for further advice is essential in preventing the potential risk of being exposed to Blood Borne Viruses (BBV's). Don't forget to access within 1 hour.

Safety measures.....

Do you have a workplace Sharps Policy?

Eye wash available on site for eye splashes?

Waterproof dressings available?

Staff know the process to follow for an inoculation injury?

Accident book/ reporting system is in place?

Staff up to date with the required vaccinations and records kept on site?

Are safe processes followed when dismantling dental instruments/equipment for decontamination?

Staff wearing the appropriate PPE for the task in hand?

What do I need to do?

- Squeeze the wound and make it bleed
- Clean the wound with running water/ soap
- Apply waterproof dressing
- Report to Manager or appropriate other
- Complete incident form/ accident book.
- Refer to practice sharps policy.
- Contact /attend Occupational health/walk in/ A&E asap (**within 1 hour**).

Remember: All inoculation injuries are reportable



Please contact the infection control team on 01744 457314 / 01744 457312 if you require any additional advice/support.