

Indian River State College Post-Exposure Protocol

If an individual, employee or student, experiences a needle stick or sharps injury, or is exposed to the blood or other body fluid of a patient during the course of class work, the individual must immediately follow these steps.

1. Notify the appropriate instructor or supervisor immediately.
2. Fill out an Incident/Accident Report. The Health & Wellness staff and/or clinical instructor can assist with this process.
3. Contact the Health & Wellness Center via telephone (462-7825) and report the injury to the Health & Wellness staff, as soon as possible.
4. Obtain emergency treatment at the hospital, clinical site or exposure site no later than 60 minutes post exposure.
5. Obtain a Physician Information Form and Post Exposure Report from the Health & Wellness Center and submit it to the physician at the office, clinic or hospital.
 - Further treatment, which may include, but is not limited to, HIV/HBV/HCV screening and possible post-exposure prophylaxis, will be determined by the physician.
 - The exposed person may opt to see their own physician for treatment.
6. Inform the hospital/clinic at which the individual is treated that the exposed individual's insurance will be billed as primary payment for the care received. IRSC will provide secondary payment. All bills should be submitted to the Risk Management Office.

Note: If the exposure occurs at a time when the Health & Wellness Center is closed, the supervisor or instructor must assure that the exposed individual receives **immediate** medical treatment at the closest medical facility. The Health & Wellness Coordinator will follow-up with the individual and attending physician and maintain confidential records of necessary follow-up testing and treatment. Individuals are encouraged to follow through with the appropriate recommended treatment. The Health & Wellness Coordinator is responsible for verifying that the initial medical treatment and any recommended follow-up treatment is carried out.