

Tattooing and body piercing guidance

PART B – Appendix 05

First Aid following a blood/body fluid exposure

1 Encourage bleeding where skin is punctured or broken.
Do not suck the wound.



2 Wash thoroughly with mild liquid soap under running warm water.
Do not use a scrubbing brush.



3 If eyes are involved, wash immediately with water for 5-10 minutes (use tap water, or sterile water if available).
If the mouth is contaminated, rinse with plenty of water.



4 Any cuts/punctures should be covered with a waterproof plaster.



5 Where there is considerable contamination of unbroken skin, remove contaminated clothing and wash all affected areas with copious amounts of water.



6 Remember to seek medical advice at the local Emergency Department as prophylactic treatment (if required) ideally needs to be given ideally within one hour and no later than 72 hours. If relevant and if possible, it is helpful if the details of the client whose needle was involved in the incident were brought to the Emergency Department in a sealed envelope to help enable the risk assessment process



7 Ensure that your manager or immediate senior is informed immediately of the incident.
The person who has received the injury should complete an incident form as per local guidelines.

The priority is to seek advice/ medical attention immediately, at a local Emergency Department, ideally within one hour of the injury occurring

Reference:
Health and Safety Executive (2012) How to deal with an exposure incident. Blood Borne Viruses Guidance. (<http://www.hse.gov.uk/biosafety/blood-borne-viruses/how-deal-exposure-incident.htm>)