



GUIDELINES

(for Nursing School Students)

Diagnostic and therapeutic pathway following an accident in the workplace with biological risk

Operational instructions: After an incident in the workplace with biological risk in case of contact with blood and/or other biological materials potentially infected by HIV, HCV and/or HBV or lesion/cutting/puncture with contaminated instruments.

OPERATIONAL INSTRUCTIONS

In the event of an accident the student must immediately notify the director of the unit where the incident occurred, or in his/her absence, the attending physician in the unit.

After thorough washing and disinfection of the potentially contaminated exposed part, the student must immediately refer to the ER at AOU "P. Giaccone", with a report of the Unit Director stating the time of the incident, the site of the lesion, a description of the events, the clinical characteristics of the source patient, and the virology pattern, if known.

The ER health care provider will acknowledge the accident, obtain a blood sample of the student for HIV, HCV and HBV viral markers required for medical and legal reasons and, if appropriate, provide a prognosis and therapy, immediately refer the student to the Infectious Diseases Unit of the AOU "P. Giaccone" (Prof. A Cascio). The student must refer to that unit no more than four hours after the incident.

The infectivologist will perform the counseling and assess the possibility to perform PEP (post-exposure prophylaxis) according to the most recent guidelines and implement the diagnostic and therapeutic procedure for incidents in the workplace (protocol n. 2356 of 18 February 2011 of AOU "P. Giaccone").

The infectivologist will perform consults at the UO of Internal Medicine, Hepatobiliary and Intestinal Disease Unit (Prof. Dr. A. Licata) at AOU "P. Giaccone" every day from 8.30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The exposed student will refer to the Office of the Director of Health Care Activities (Hospital Infection Prevention and Surveillance Unit, Director Dr. Calamusa) where epidemiological tests will be performed on the event and subsequent entry in the company database of all relevant information.

The student will refer to the central blood bank of the AOU "P. Giaccone" at 45 days, 3 and 6 months for serological tests. The director will notify the results of the subsequent serological tests to the student.

The student will refer to the Nursing School Coordinator's office with a copy of the documentation no more than 48 hours from the incident.