



College of Medicine & Dentistry at the Hills, Abbottabad

## Policy on Needle-stick injury

FOR THE YEAR 2025-26



## **Policy On Needle – Stick Injury**

1. **Purpose.** The purpose of this standard operating procedure (SOP) is to establish the guidelines for pricks by needles or other pointed object.

2. **Scope.** All faculty students staff involved directly or indirectly in drawing handling processing and disposing blood samples, needles and sharp instruments

3. **Responsibility.** College administration has made it mandatory for all students to get vaccinated against hepatitis Brirus (HBV) on admission in to a collage of medicine and dentistry at the hills (CMDH) Abbottabad, for their own protection and safety.

### **4. Procedure**

#### **a. Practices to Reduce Risk**

(1) Avoid use of needles where safe and effective alternatives are available e.g., use of closed system of blood collection i.e. hinge vacuum – deiven needle shield and use of self-blunting needles.

(2) During handling of needles exercise extreme care. Dispose needles promptly in sharps disposal containers ONLY, Needles must never be re-capped.

(3) All faculty/ students/ staff should be vaccinated against hepatitis C virus.

(4) Containers for disposal of needles and sharp instrument must be placed at eye level and arms, reach. These containers must be checked on a schedule and be disposed as per hospital waste management protocol, when full.

(5) (HBV) on recruitment admission. There is no vaccine or approved prophylaxis against hepatitis C or acguired immune deficiency syndrome.

(6) Any needle stick injury case should be brought to the notice of the head that department HOD college administration without delay.

#### **b. Management of needle stick injury**

(1) Do not panic.

(2) Do not put the injured finger in the mouth.

(3) Immediately wash the wound and surrounding skin with running tap water and soap.

(4) Do not scrub or use bleach, chlorine, or alcohol on the wound.

c. **Reporting Needle- stick Injury**

- (1) **During Working Hours.** The injured person will report to the HOD, who will be responsible for informing the HOD Emergency Medicine and referring the affected individual to the medical specialist.
- (2) **Reporting Time.** Ideally such incidents should be reported as soon as possible, certainly no later than 30 minutes.

**Dealing With Spillage – Management of Liquid Spills  
(Body Fluids or Blood etc)**

With Spillage of liquids (blood, cerebrospinal fluid, wound aspirates, pleural fluid or peritoneal etc. is done as follows: -

- a. Promptly clean and decontaminate spills of blood and other potentially infectious materials.
- b. Do not panic
- c. Inform others
- d. Doff the personal protective equipment
- e. Get the spill kit.
- f. Don new PPE.
- g. Using a pair of forceps, carefully retrieve the shards and discard them into container for sharp.
- h. Define spill perimeter.
- i. Cover the spill with absorbent towel. Pour 0.5% freshly- prepared sodium hypochlorite solution.
- j. Leave for at least 30 minutes.
- k. Remove the absorbent towels from outside inwards.
- l. Dispose all the soiled materials into the infectious waste bag.
- m. Clean the area with gauze or mop with water and detergent, with hands gloved completely.