

VICTORIA COUNTY & BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS



Exposure Incident: An exposure incident is a specific eye, mouth, other mucous membrane, non-intact skin, or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials (OPIM), as defined in the standard that results from the performance of a worker's duties.



1. **Immediately notify your supervisor.**
2. **Administer Initial First Aid.**

Wash hands/any body part that were in contact with blood or other potentially infectious material. Identify the source individual.

3. **Obtain consent from source individual for testing.**
4. **Let the CMC/ER know of the exposure incident and ask them to test the source. If unable to determine source, the physician will determine if possible bloodborne exposure occurred.**

This is **very important** so they can draw blood from the source; if no source then employee. First 24 hours is best protocol.

5. **“Normally” the ER will not test the Employee if the source is negative.**

Exception: if you are a First Responder, you **must** be tested within 10 days of the exposure, no ifs, ands, or buts **unless** the physician determines no exposure occurred. If exposure, the physician may order medication. See WC info for RX coverage. Source/Employee will need to sign a release for hospital to share with our Health Dept. (VCPHD).

First Responders are law enforcement officers, correctional/detention officers and fire fighters. First Responders can contact OIEC to assist with workers comp claims 1-800-393-6432.

6. **If you are not a first responder and wish to be tested:**

Make sure to have the **ER register** you as a patient before testing.

7. **The County will send you for a follow-up.**

This will be held at VCPHD with the Nursing Department.



Information for you and the ER/Hospital you attend:

Have them notify the County's Human Resources Department when the exposure occurred.
Contact Information Gina Howard office (361) 578-0752 or cell 361-894-3282.