



**THE GEORGE
WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY**
WASHINGTON, DC

Responsible University Official: Associate Dean for Graduate
Medical Education, DIO
Responsible Office: SMHS Office of GME
Most recent revision: May 2023

POLICY ON RESIDENT OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURES

Policy Statement

Residents may be exposed to infectious agents in the course of their patient care and medical education through contact, inhalation, or percutaneous routes. Residents are required to complete training in OSHA Standard Precautions at the start of their residency training and annually thereafter. The attached procedure details the process through which residents should seek evaluation and treatment for occupational exposures, including other exposures to infectious diseases (COVID-19, Ebola, etc.) and for reporting such exposures to Hospital Employee Health, University Risk Management, and MFA, as appropriate.

Who Needs to Know This Policy

All Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)-accredited residency and fellowship programs sponsored by the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS)

Policy Contact

Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education, DIO

Who Approved This Policy

Graduate Medical Education Committee (GMEC)

History/Revision Dates

Approved by GMEC: April 20, 2015
Revised and approved by GMEC: January 22, 2017
Revised and approved by GMEC: September 21, 2020
Revised and approved by GMEC: May 15, 2023

Policy/Procedures

It is important that you notify **the faculty member supervising you during your shift, your Program Director and/or Chief Resident** as soon as possible **after an exposure** to ensure that you are able to be relieved from patient care duties **as needed to receive appropriate treatment**.

In the event of resident exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens, post-exposure evaluation and treatment evaluation will be provided at no cost to the resident.

Procedures for reporting also appear on the MedHub home page; click on the “Needle Stick/Occupational Exposure” button.

Procedures to follow:

Needlestick/Occupational Exposure:

- If you have a needlestick or an occupational exposure, report in person to GWU Hospital Employee Health, Suite G1029 in the GWU Hospital during normal business hours for evaluation.

Reporting:

Needlestick/Occupational Exposure:

- File an incident report with University Risk Management using the online report form at this site:
 - https://assureclaimsprd-george-washington-university.dxc-ins.com/GWU_Shell_Web_Form/WebForm/PageBuilder.aspx
 - Complete and submit the form. Make a note of the confirmation number (EV....).
 - NOTE: **Chrome** is the recommended browser, but the form is also compatible with Internet Explorer and Firefox

Frequently Asked Questions when completing the University Risk Management form:

- ***What is the best internet browser to use?***
 - Chrome is recommended, but the form is also compatible with Internet Explorer and Firefox.
- ***What should I do for Academic/Admin?***
 - Click on the magnifying glass, and select the following:
 - Academic from the Academic/Admin options
 - School of Medicine and Health Sciences (under the School/Division options)
 - The Department field will automatically populate when you select the magnifying glass

For reporting injuries, what email address should I enter under “Employee’s Email Address” at the end of the webform?

- Input the email address for Mary Tucker (mtucker@gwu.edu)
- Contact Risk Management if you have any other questions

NOTE: Please complete all sections of the form, including your SSN

Procedures to follow if you have a needlestick occupational exposure after business hours or at another hospital:

- If exposure or injury occurs after business hours:
 - report to GWU Emergency Department, then complete the above steps
 - report to GWU Hospital Employee Health in person the next business day
- If at another hospital:
 - report to their ED or Employee Health as required, then complete the above steps
 - report to GWU Hospital Employee Health in person the next business day with lab results and source patient documentation
- If you receive a bill for services, submit it to the GME Office as soon as possible