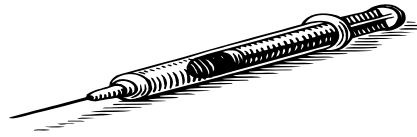


Needle Stick and Exposure Protocol



- The needle stick hotline is a service provided to residents who sustain an exposure to blood or body fluids during their training. The hotline is available 24 hours a day 7 days a week. 713.500.OUCH (6824).
- Regardless of what hospital or clinic you are in at the time of exposure the procedure is the same.
- Call the exposure hotline at 713.500.OUCH (6824) to report your injury; you will be given stickers with this number on it. Attach this sticker to the back of your ID, so it will always be with you.
- If you need a new sticker, they are available at UT-Student Health Services, located at the UT professional building, suite 1010.
- After you call the hotline, remain by the phone. The call will be returned within five to ten minutes. You will be asked to give a detailed description of the incident along with the source patient information. If follow-ups are required, instructions will be given by the hotline nurse.
- All costs of counseling, labs, and if necessary, medications are covered by workers' comp. If you contact the hotline after hours, you may be instructed to go to the ER, which is also covered by workers' comp.
- If an exposure occurs, you must call the hotline immediately.
- Protect yourselves, practice safety, do not recap needles, dispose of all sharps properly, and always wear the appropriate protective equipment for the task.