

# MEASURES TO BE TAKEN

## IN THE EVENT OF AN ACCIDENT INVOLVING EXPOSURE TO BLOOD AND BIOLOGICAL AGENTS

### UNDERSTANDING THE ISSUE

This is an accident involving exposure to blood or biological agents that contain blood (needle stick injuries, cuts and splashes on damaged skin or on mucous membranes). Accidents in the same circumstances involving other body fluids (urine, secretions, etc.) are considered to be equivalent to those involving blood, even if they are not visibly soiled by blood.

#### IMPORTANT

The risk of contamination should always be assessed, especially with regard to HIV and hepatitis B (HBV) and C (HCV) viruses.

A care protocol prepared with the occupational physician must be displayed in laboratories where hazardous biological agents are handled. The protocol must indicate the contact details of the HIV medical adviser, emergency services and occupational physician.

An iodine allergy does not contraindicate the use of Betadine.

#### WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE IMMEDIATELY

- Let the wound bleed without applying pressure to it (do not try to increase the blood flow).
- Wash the wound with soap and running water and rinse with plenty of water.
- Disinfect the wound by soaking it for at least 5 minutes of contact time in a chlorine derivative (such as Dakin® or 1:5 dilution of 2.6% active chlorine solution (“bleach”)) or an iodine derivative such as povidon-iodine (Betadine®), otherwise, use surgical spirit.
- In case of simultaneous contamination with EtBr (ethidium bromide), do not use Dakin® or bleach, use an iodine derivative or surgical spirit instead.
- In case of splashes on eyes, rinse immediately from the inner to the outer corner of the eye for at least 10 minutes with saline solution or running water.

#### WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE WITHIN THE HOUR

##### following risk assessment (nature and source of sample)

- Risk of exposure to HIV: make an emergency call to the medical adviser to assess the risk of contamination and the need to implement prophylactic treatment promptly.
- Assess the risk of infection with the occupational physician too, especially with regard to HBV and HCV.
- Biological monitoring depending on the risk assessment and the implementation of preventive treatment is provided if required.



### REMEMBER

A workplace accident must be declared to the Human Resources Department as soon as possible (preferably within 24 hours), by submitting a medical certificate and a workplace accident declaration form:



[https://intranet.cnrs.fr/Cnrs\\_pratique/recruter/Pages/D%C3%A9claration-d%E2%80%99accident-du-travail-et-de-maladie-professionnelle.aspx](https://intranet.cnrs.fr/Cnrs_pratique/recruter/Pages/D%C3%A9claration-d%E2%80%99accident-du-travail-et-de-maladie-professionnelle.aspx) «Déclaration d'accident du travail et de maladie professionnelle»