

# **Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan – Appendix C: PCC Students in Healthcare & Emergency Professions Classroom Activities**

## **I. PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

PCC has two student categories that each have a potential bloodborne pathogens exposure:

### **A. Healthcare & Emergency Professions Students During Practicums:**

These students are not College employees but are covered as subject workers under the Workers Compensation Insurance Program (ref. OR 656.046). If there is a bloodborne pathogens exposure event, these students are treated as if they were College employees and are expected to follow the same process to which College employees adhere after an exposure incident (ref. Plan section IV.I. Post Exposure Event Reporting).

### **B. Healthcare & Emergency Professions Students in Classes:**

These students use sharps and perform injections and/or blood draws in the classroom but the Bloodborne Pathogens Standard does not apply because there is no employment or practicum-related exposure. However, there is still a need to ensure that there is proper notification to the students involved in a bloodborne pathogens exposure event and that students understand the scope of care that may be needed as a result of an exposure event. The payment of medical care shall be determined by the College's Risk Service department. In general, there is no coverage for any medical treatment. Risk Services will review each case and may pay for the exposed student and/or source individual to have a blood draw for HIV, HBV and HCV testing, depending on the circumstances. If consent is obtained from the source individual, information shall be provided to the potentially exposed student.

## **II. RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **A. Academic Departments:**

1. The prevention of bloodborne pathogen sharps exposures to students is critical.
2. Ensure that all students involved in the use of medical sharps are trained in the basics of bloodborne pathogens hazards and proper methods of using and disposing of these devices.
3. Ensure that all instructional staff permitting students to use medical sharps devices are trained on:
  - a. PCC's Bloodborne Pathogens program, i.e., Chapter 4 of the College's Health & Safety Manual, and have received the required annual Bloodborne Pathogens training.
  - b. Trained in Appendix C (this appendix) dealing with students (non-employee) permitted to use medical sharps devices as part of the instructional program.

- c. The College's post-exposure event reporting procedures and protocols as found in Section IV.I. of the Plan as well as this appendix to the Plan.
4. Ensure that Risk Services is notified as soon as possible following a student bloodborne pathogens exposure event and receives the Injury/Illness/Near-Miss Report.
5. Ensure that the students (non-employees) involved in the event are informed of this procedure. The procedure includes first aid measures at the injury site and possible blood draws for the exposed student and/or source individual.

**B. Risk Services:**

1. Once notified of student related bloodborne pathogens exposure event (see Appendix A, Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan, Chapter 4, for Definitions). Risk Services shall ensure that the Injury/Illness/Near-Miss Report which documents incidents for students has been completed within 24 hours.
2. Risk Services shall determine issues of payment and liability with the Risk Management Claims Specialist regarding any further bloodborne pathogens exposure treatment based on initial medical evaluation and overall liability issues surrounding the event.
3. Risk Services staff follow up with the students involved in the event to ensure that appropriate information has been provided and continues the investigation regarding the exposure event.
4. Risk Services staff complete an investigation with the Department staff to determine changes in instructional procedures to prevent the type of exposure event during future classroom sessions.

**III. STUDENT TRAINING**

- A. Instructional staff for programs involving students using medical sharps devices shall ensure that the instructional program provides students with adequate training on the hazards associated with bloodborne pathogens and proper protocols for use and disposal of sharps for the prevention of bloodborne pathogens events. This training requirement must be included in the class syllabus.
- B. Student training shall include:
  1. A general explanation of the epidemiology and symptoms of bloodborne diseases
  2. An explanation of the modes of transmission of bloodborne pathogens.
  3. An explanation of the appropriate methods of recognizing tasks and other activities that may involve exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials.
  4. An explanation on the use and limitation of methods that will prevent or reduce exposure including appropriate engineering controls, work practices and personal protective equipment (PPE).
  5. An explanation of the basis for selecting PPE.

6. Information on the types, proper use, location, removal, handling, decontamination, and disposal of PPE.
7. An explanation of the warning labels and color-coding for infectious waste materials.
8. Information on the appropriate actions to take and who to contact in an emergency involving contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials.
9. An explanation of the procedure to follow if an exposure event occurs, which includes that the student is not covered under Worker's Compensation and in general that the College is not obligated to provide medical care.
10. Information that the exposed student's healthcare provider would be given information about the health status of the source individual if that individual authorizes the consent of the data.

#### **IV. POST-EXPOSURE EVENT CARE, REPORTING, INVESTIGATING AND DOCUMENTING:**

- A. Immediate actions include first aid and documenting the event so that the student, if he/she so chooses, may get medical treatment at PCC's contract medical provider for Bloodborne Pathogens medical issues.
- B. In the event of an exposure event, appropriate care of the exposure site shall take first priority and will include cleansing of the exposure site, e.g., wound or skin surface. If the route of entry includes, the mouth, eyes, or nose, flushing of the area is essential.
- C. Public Safety personnel may provide first aid when requested.
- D. The class instructor will document the exposure with the student using the:
  1. PCC Injury/Illness/Near-Miss Report Form either online or a hard copy that is forwarded to Risk Services Claim Specialist, Nickie Blasdell: Office 971-722-2870 (office) or 503-943-9966 (mobile).
  2. Student Post-BBP Exposure Report that provides the student with information on how to get a blood test for HIV, HBV and HCV at one of PCC's occupational health providers (see Appendix D: Occupational Health Providers)
  3. Provide the student with the post exposure summary sheet that provides contact phone numbers for Risk Management Claims Specialist. The Claims Specialist will provide the student with additional information about the status of exposure event treatment and the College's overall liability.
- E. Class instructor shall immediately notify their Department Dean and the Risk Services Claim Specialist. If Risk Services personnel do not answer the phone, a detailed voicemail message should be provided and someone from Risk Services will get back to you to follow up. See Risk Services Contact name and phone on the Student BBP Summary Information list in Section V. of this Appendix.

- F. Source individual is generally going to be a fellow student:
  - 1. The Instructor shall provide Risk Services Claims Specialist with the name and contact phone number of the source individual.
  - 2. Generally, the source testing would be done under contract by one of PCC's occupational health providers (see Appendix D: Occupational Health Providers)
  - 3. Arrangements shall be made with written notification and permission for disclosure to provide the test results to the exposed student's health care professional.
  - 4. The initial blood draw testing will be conducted at the expense of the College.
  - 5. When the testing is completed, the results will be documented and made available to the exposed student's health care professional based on the source's consent.
- G. Determination on claim payment and status of testing costs shall be made through Risk Services. The initial blood testing is paid for by Risk Services at one of PCC's occupational health providers (see Appendix D: Occupational Health Providers)

**V. SUMMARY ACTIONS TO TAKE IF A STUDENT HAS A POTENTIAL BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS EVENT:**

- A. Emergency needlestick or other sharps medical device with human blood or other infectious bodily fluids: The student needs to immediately
  - 1. Wash needlestick site and/or potential exposure site with soap and water
  - 2. Flush splashes to the nose, mouth, or skin with water
  - 3. Irrigate eyes with clean water, saline or sterile irrigates
  - 4. Report the event to the instructor immediately
- B. PCC Academic Instructor needs to complete the initial information on the Injury/Illness/Near-Miss Form with the student and complete the Student Post Exposure Report within 24 hours.
- C. The Post Exposure Report copy is provided to the student for information or post exposure blood testing. This includes a listing of the occupational health provider facilities where the testing can be done (see Appendix D: Occupational Health Providers).
- D. If the student believes he/she should have medical treatment, for clarification or assistance with the policy, contact the Risk Management Claims Specialist, Nickie Blasdel: 971-722-2870 (office) or 503-943-9966 (mobile).