

Needlestick and Body Fluid Exposure Prevention:

Risk of needlestick and sharps-related injuries may occur during clinical skills training and clinical experiences. Prevention and safety practices are essential to avoiding these injuries and reducing exposure to body fluids and bloodborne pathogens. To minimize the risk of injury or exposure, the following guidelines should be followed:

- Use appropriate PPE, including (but not limited to) gloves, face and eye protection such as masks or shields, and gowns.
- Wear proper clinical attire, including closed-toed shoes and full-length pants, skirts, or dresses.
- Follow safe sharps practices, including using safety-engineered needle devices, never recapping needles by hand, and disposing of all sharps promptly in an approved sharps container.

Students: In the event of a needlestick or body fluid exposure while in clinic, please follow the instructions noted below.

University of Colorado Employee Needlestick or Body Fluid Exposure Incident Reporting Process

- 1) Visit University Risk Management website: <https://www.cu.edu/risk/incident-procedure>.
- 2) Choose **"Incident Procedure"**
- 3) Choose **"Needlestick or Body Fluid Exposure Report Form."**
- 4) Fill out the Exposure Report Form as completely as possible to assist with proper claimant identification and billing. The form **MUST** include:
 - Name
 - Address
 - Contact Phone Number(s)
 - Email Address
 - Source Patient Name and MRN (if known)
- 5) Employee treatment/post-exposure lab work can be completed at any DMP location. Select a location that is most convenient for you.
 - Designated Medical Providers Locations: <https://www.cu.edu/risk/dmp>
- 6) Once your Exposure Report Form is received by the URM Claims office, a member of the team will contact you with the next steps; respond as soon as possible.
- 7) For any additional information or questions, please contact University Risk Management at 303-860-5682 or email URM@cu.edu

Healthcare students who get a needlestick during a clinical rotation would be financially covered for treatment by University Risk Management, under Workers' Compensation.