

FLOW CHART: MANAGEMENT OF SHARPS EXPOSURES IN THE COMMUNITY

In all cases

1. Clean & examine wound
2. Check HBV & Tetanus immunization status
3. Take baseline blood for storage 'Serum Save'
4. Start accelerated course of HBV vaccine (or booster if previously vaccinated)
5. Give Tetanus vaccine +/- immunoglobulin if indicated.
6. **NB** PEP for HIV is rarely indicated

Follow up of recipient when **source known**

1. Test source for HIV, HBV and HCV infection
2. Follow up recipient on basis of results
3. Refer donor if positive for any BBV
4. If source declines testing follow up recipient as for unknown source

Follow up of recipient when **source unknown**

1. 4 weeks: 2nd dose HBV vaccine
2. 6 weeks serum sample for HCV RNA
3. 8 weeks: 3rd dose HBV vaccine
4. 12 weeks : serum sample for HCV RNA, HCV Ab, HIV screen
5. 6 months: serum sample for HCV Ab, HBV sAg and sAb
6. 12 months: booster dose of HBV vaccine for those at continuing risk of exposure

For advice please contact the duty virology team at UHCW on 024 7696 4640 or 5471 or 5473