

Blood Borne Pathogen Exposure Program for HARRIS COUNTY Employees

Exposed Employee Presents to Memorial Hermann - Texas Medical Center to the Emergency Room with or without Appendix 1

(If Employee has not completed Appendix 1, MH Occupational Medicine Facilitator will assist)

Harris County employee &/or supervisor can call Occupational Medicine (713-704-3100) 24/7 for assistance



EXPOSED EMPLOYEE:

Prophylaxis for positive HIV exposure is most effective when received 1-2 hours after exposure.

Harris County employee notifies the ER front desk that they are a Harris County employee. This is important for the process to be set in motion. The ER staff will then contact Occupational Medicine (on duty 24/7, all holidays included) so that the Occupational Medicine staff member can facilitate the visit. The Harris County employee is Evaluated by an ER physician and the circumstances of the exposure are discussed with the exposed employee. The Occupational Medicine facilitator completes the Appendix 1 and Sharps Injury Form (if appropriate) with the exposed employee and also provides them with an Information Sheet regarding HIV and a disclosure regarding prophylaxis medication that the employee is to sign, signifying their understanding that the County will cover the ER visit and the first dose of prophylaxis, as well as certain follow-up visits to UT.

The County will not cover the filling of the prophylaxis prescription.

Upon discussing the circumstances of the exposure with the employee, the physician will determine if the exposure warrants a single dose of prophylaxis. If so, the exposed employee will have their blood drawn to establish their baseline testing. A single dose of prophylaxis will be offered (if appropriate) and the employee will be asked to sign a refusal form if they refuse the offered dose of prophylaxis.

LABS ARE ORDERED BY OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE FACILITATOR UNDER THE PROPER STAT LAB REQUISITION

The Occupational Medicine Facilitator Directs the Exposed Patient to follow up with Dr. George DeClos at UT:

Patient is provided a Return To Work form releasing the employee to a Full Duty Release and referring them to Dr. George DeClos, including the address and phone number for the UT clinic. The employee is to follow up with the UT clinic the next business day or as soon as possible.

The Occupational Medicine facilitator forwards the exposed patient results (and source patient results if available) to Dr. George DeClos at UT within 24 hours of the ER visit.

Dr. George DeClos - UT clinic contact information:

UT Health Services
7000 Fannin, Suite 1620
Houston, TX 77030
(713) 500-3267

After hours answering service: (800) 770 - 9206
(Parking is available on the first 5 floors of the building at a cost of about \$8)

Harris County employees call the UT clinic to schedule an appointment for follow-up care.

UT clinic staff offer a convenient appointment time, usually available within 24 hours.

Hours of operation for UT clinic are as follows:

Monday through Friday
7:00AM to 4:00PM

Harris County employees complete the UT registration forms & sign consent. Employees are then placed in an exam room & their vital signs are taken.

The provider will review the employee and source patient blood test reports & make recommendations regarding continuation of post exposure medications & additional monitoring. A prescription for post exposure medication is provided as needed based on the source patient's labs & the nature of the exposure. If required, follow-up testing appointments are scheduled before leaving. Harris County employee obtains prescription medications at the pharmacy of their choice using their personal medical insurance. Employees return to UT Health Services as needed until follow-up care is complete.