

# Needlestick Injury

## First Aid for a needlestick injury

1. Encourage the wound to gently bleed, ideally holding it under running water
2. Wash the wound using running water and plenty of soap; leave under running water for a minimum of 10 minutes - ideally 20 minutes
3. Do not scrub or squeeze the wound whilst you are washing it
4. Do not suck the wound
5. Dry the wound and cover it with a waterproof plaster or dressing

## Immediate actions

- Follow your setting's contamination injury policy
- Organise blood samples (if required)

## Suspected high risk

**If there is high suspicion of blood borne virus risk, the student must attend the nearest A&E department immediately**

## Reporting

- Inform the person in charge
- Complete a DATIX
- Complete the [Contamination reporting form](#)

Inform Occupational Health on  
0113 343 2997 or  
[occupationalhealthstudents@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:occupationalhealthstudents@leeds.ac.uk)

