

Action to be taken following an inoculation incident:

Immediate management of inoculation injuries -

[Needlestick or sharps injuries – HSE](#)

- **Bleed it** - if there has been a puncture wound, encourage bleeding of the wound by squeezing it under running water (do not suck the wound).
- **Wash it** - the injured area or damaged skin should be washed thoroughly with liquid soap and warm running water and dried. Blood or body fluid splashes to the eyes, nose or mouth should be irrigated copiously with tap water or saline. Remove contact lenses, if worn.
- **Cover it** - cover the wound with a waterproof dressing.
- **Report it** - report the injury to your manager immediately and complete an incident form.
- **Seek advice** - seek urgent clinical advice immediately, e.g. from your GP, Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Occupational Health provider.

Out of normal office/surgery hours, attend the nearest Emergency Department (ED).