

# Core brief

**Daily update**  
**(13 May 2024, 11.20am)**

Topics in this Core Brief:

- Quality Strategy Newsletter
- Management of occupational exposure to blood or body fluids
- Let's talk about... Staff Wellbeing Webinars

**Remember, for all your latest news stories, visit our new Staffnet Hub:**  
[GGC-Staffnet Hub - Home \(sharepoint.com\)](https://sharepoint.com)

## Quality Strategy Newsletter

The seventh edition of the Quality Strategy Newsletter is available now. This edition focuses on:

- Quality Priorities
- Creating the Conditions for Quality in NHSGGC – Update from Focus Groups
- ADE Virtual Follow-Up Event
- Coffee and Quality Session
- Quality Strategy Timeline



NHSGGC Quality Strategy Newsletter

Welcome to the seventh SWAY newsletter for the NHSGGC Quality Strategy (QS). If you missed our previous newsletters, you can find them here:

[Go to this Sway](#)

## **Management of occupational exposure to blood or body fluids**

### **Occupational exposure to blood or body fluids: How can you be exposed to blood or body fluids?**

Exposure to blood or high risk body fluids can occur as a result of one of the following types of incident:

- Percutaneous injury e.g. from needles, medical instruments, teeth or bone fragments or bites which break the skin
- Exposure of broken skin (abrasions, cuts, eczema etc.)
- Splashes of blood or body fluids into mucous membranes including the mouth or eyes

Contamination on intact skin is **not** a risk of exposure.

### **What are High Risk Body Fluids?**

In addition to blood, high risk body fluids are pleural fluid, blood stained low risk fluid, saliva associated with dentistry, semen, vaginal secretions, breast milk, CSF synovial fluid, pericardial fluid, unfixed tissues or organs.

These types of exposure present a risk of blood borne virus (BBV) transmission e.g. HIV, hepatitis B and C. However, the likelihood of transmission is influenced by a number of factors:

- the virus e.g. Hepatitis B is 50-100 times more infectious than HIV
- the amount of exposure and the amount of virus present in the fluid an individual is exposed to e.g. someone who is regularly taking HIV medication, is unlikely to pose a risk of transmission due to reduced viral load
- the immune status of the exposed person e.g. If you have received vaccination for hepatitis B.

### **What should you do following exposure?**

- Immediate first aid
- Squeeze the affected area to encourage bleeding and wash with warm water and soap
- Do not suck the affected area and do not scrub or use bleach
- Splashes to eye - Rinse out with saline, then remove contact lenses if worn and then rinse eye again. Clean contact lenses with contact lenses cleaner
- Splash into mouth - rinse mouth out with saline and spit out, do not swallow the saline
- Report the injury to your Line Manager/ Supervisor.

### **Nurse in Charge of Source patient**

The nurse in charge of source patient (the patient whose body fluid the injured person has been exposed to) is responsible for the initial assessment and management of the source patient (if known) however this assessment can be delegated to a doctor or other clinician as appropriate.

## Contact Occupational Health

Contact the Occupational Health needlestick line on 0141 201 0595 between 8.00am – 5.30pm Monday to Friday, to report the injury, to obtain further advice and to arrange any necessary follow up.

Out with these hours you must attend your local Emergency Department (ED) for the initial assessment - you must also provide ED with the details and outcome of the source patient risk assessment. Where you attend ED you must also report your injury to Occupational Health on the next working day to arrange for follow up.

Further information and advice can be found on the Occupational Health section of HR Connect [Needlestick and Similar Injuries - NHSGGC](#)

## Let's talk about... Staff Wellbeing Webinars

The *Let's talk about... Staff Wellbeing* webinar series continues to focus on various topics which we know are important to personal health and wellbeing and are delivered in a format that allows colleagues to take away top tips and share with others.

We would like to thank colleagues for your very positive feedback.

All NHSGGC and HSCP staff are welcome to come along. Webinars are open to all staff with easy booking access for the sessions you are interested in.

Date	Time	Webinar	Booking
23 May 2024	1.30pm – 1.50pm	Let's talk about... managing stress outside our control	<a href="#">Book here</a>
20 June 2024	10.00am – 10.20am	Let's talk about... Smoking	<a href="#">Book here</a>
18 July 2024	2.00pm – 2.20pm	Let's talk about... healthy weight management	<a href="#">Book here</a>

All pre-recorded webinars can be watched on SharePoint: GGC - Let's talk about... [Staff Wellbeing Webinars - Home \(sharepoint.com\)](#).

Please share this information with your colleagues/teams/services to support all staff wellbeing.

\*\*\*Staff are reminded to make sure their [personal contact details are up to date on eESS](#).\*\*\*

It is important to share Core Brief with colleagues who do not have access to a computer.

A full archive of printable PDFs are available on [website](#)