UTRGV
Needlestick Protocol

1. Excuse yourself and go wash your hands and area of exposure well

2. Inform your resident/fellow/attending you have been stuck:
   • Your Resident/Fellow/Attending Contact information/ pager number

3. Gather information of the source
   
   - HIV: □ Unknown □ Known (+) □ Known (-)
   - Hep B: □ Unknown □ Known (+) □ Known (-)
   - Hep C: □ Unknown □ Known (+) □ Known (-)

4. Obtain Source Labs
   • If at a UTRGV Facility → Ask the Charge nurse on the source patient’s unit for a BBP Exposure Packet
     The BBP Exposure Packet will contain directions and supplies to complete the follow up evaluation:
     - Site/Location specific forms will be included Patient.
     - Lab test order forms (for rapid HIV, HBsAg, Hep C Ab -with reflex PCR if positive)
     - General Information regarding risk of exposures (CDC Packet)

   • Charge nurse will help obtain source patient’s blood specimen to send to the main lab, if you are going to the ER for care.

   • If NOT at a UTRGV Facility, ask your resident/attending/charge nurse for protocol/assistance in obtaining source labs.

5. Get to Care without Delay
   - At any UTRGV Clinical affiliate → UTRGV Student Health (M-F 8AM - 5PM) 956-665-2511 in Edinburg 956-665-2511 Brownsville 956-882-3896 and say: "med student w/needlestick"
   - After hours or... any NON-UTRGV facility → Nearest Emergency Department

6. Your Care
   • You will discuss your risk with the above Health Care Provider to determine whether you should receive post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)
   • If you are receiving PEP you will need lab tests
     - HIV-1/HIV-2 Antibody, Hep C Antibody, Hep B Surface Antibody, CBC with differential, Comprehensive Metabolic Panel, Qualitative Urine HCG (females)
   • If receiving PEP, you will typically get a 3-day supply from student health. Make sure your supply will last until you can get your prescription filled at the nearest pharmacy.

7. Follow up Treatment
   a. If PEP was prescribed, or if the source has Hepatitis B, or Hepatitis C, or there are outstanding source labs or you have any questions or concerns at any time you should make an appointment to see Student Health the next business day (call 956-665-2511 and say “med student w/needlestick”)
     i. Appointment Date/Time ______________________
     ii. Bring this worksheet with you to Student Health
   b. If you were given PEP, Student Health will provide a prescription for ongoing PEP meds (for the full 28 days) at your follow-up appointment. You may also need 4 week/ 3 month/ 6 month follow ups.

8. Payment
   a. UTRGV School of Medicine has a needlestick fund help pay for some related expenses that are not covered by your insurance.

9. Questions/Concerns
   a. Contact Stan Fisch, MD – Associate Dean for Student Affairs
   b. Office: 956-296-1414 Email: stanley.fisch@utrgv.edu If Dr. Fisch is unavailable, contact Student Health: Office: 956-665-2511.