

# TUBERCULOSIS EXPOSURE/INJURY RESPONSE PROTOCOL

<b>Organism or Agent:</b>	<b>Mycobacterium tuberculosis (MTB)</b>
<b>Exposure Risk:</b>	<b>Tuberculosis</b>
<b>Employee Health and Wellness Clinic:</b>	<b>210-567-2788</b> (Available during work hours)
<b>Student Health Clinic:</b>	<b>210-567-WELL (9355)</b> (Available during work hours)
<b>Environmental Health &amp; Safety:</b>	<b>210-567-2955</b> (Available during work hours)
<b>UT Police:</b>	<b>911 from any campus telephone</b> <b>567-8911 from cell phone</b>

## PROTOCOL SUMMARY

**In the event of an accidental exposure or injury, the protocol is as follows:**

### **1. Modes of Transmission:**

- a. Skin puncture or injection
- b. Ingestion
- c. Contact with mucous membranes (eyes, nose, mouth)
- d. Exposure to aerosols containing MTB; Airborne exposure to droplet nuclei
- e. Exposure to patient confirmed positive for infectious MTB

### **2. First Aid:**

- a. **Skin Exposure**, immediately go to the sink and thoroughly wash the skin with soap and water. Decontaminate any exposed skin surfaces with an antiseptic scrub solution.
- b. **Skin Wound**, immediately go to the sink and thoroughly wash the wound with soap and water and pat dry.
- c. **Splash to Eye(s), Nose or Mouth**, immediately flush the area with running water for at least 5-10 minutes.
- d. **Splash Affecting Garments**, remove garments that may have become soiled or contaminated and place them in a red plastic biohazard bag.

### **3. Notification of Supervisor**

- a. After first aid has been administered, immediately inform your supervisor of the exposure.
- b. Employees: Complete the *Notification of On the Job Injury* form and present it to the medical provider. <http://research.uthscsa.edu/safety/WCINotificationofOJI.pdf>
- c. Students: Complete the incident report form available at the Student Health Clinic.

### **4. Medical Care and Follow-up Care:**

- a. In the event of an acute injury resulting from a laboratory incident which requires immediate medical care, the injured employee/student should report to the emergency department for acute medical treatment.
- b. After first aid is complete, contact Employee Health and Wellness Clinic (employees) or Student Health Clinic (students), for a follow-up care.

### **5. Completion of Forms:**

- a. Employee completes the *First Report of Injury or Illness* form and submit to Workers' Compensation Coordinator, FAX 210-567-2965. Form can be found at the following link: <http://research.uthscsa.edu/safety/FirstReport.pdf>
- b. Students: Complete the incident report form available at the Student Health Clinic.

### **For Laboratory Spills:**

- a. **Secure the laboratory:** Identify the equipment involved in the exposure and the mechanism of exposure. Make sure that the laboratory area has been secured and that notification of contamination has been posted to prevent other individuals from entering the area.

In the event of a large spill, contact Environmental Health and Safety for assistance in cleanup.