

# Citrus Community College District RDA Program

## INJURY PROTOCOL

Following is the protocol to be followed when an RDA student receives a needle stick or break of the skin by an object or instrument which has been contaminated with blood or other body fluids or if the student is exposed to body fluids via mucous membranes or non-intact skin.

1. **Report injury immediately** to the following: Clinical Site Supervisor (either the dentist, office manager or supervising RDA), the Supervising Faculty **and** the Program Director (626) 914-8728.

Prompt notification is imperative. Following notification, Citrus RDA faculty will file a report with Citrus College Risk Management. The student will then receive a letter with information about the claim.

2. Student needs to **report immediately to U.S. Health Works Medical Group** for baseline blood testing for Hepatitis-B immunity and HIV testing. They are the provider for Citrus College student injuries in a clinical setting regardless of any health care coverage that the student may have.

U.S. Health Works Medical Group  
6520 N. Irwindale Ave, Suite 100  
Irwindale, CA 91702  
626-812-0366

Be sure to take your Citrus College Student ID and identify yourself as a 'student at Citrus College who was injured in the clinical setting'. They are open 24 hours/day, 7 days/week.

3. U.S. Health Works will make recommendations to the student for follow-up care. It is the student's responsibility to **follow through with those recommendations.**

In general, the recommendations for dental health care workers include:

1. Repeat the HIV test three months and six months after the incident.
2. If the initial test for Hepatitis-B immunity is negative, it is recommended that the student receives a second series of two injections. If after receiving a total of five injections the immunity level remains negative, no further testing or vaccination is recommended as the student is presumed unresponsive/insensitive to Hepatitis B vaccine.
3. The dental office may advise the patient (infecting individual) that the incident has occurred and request the patient to consent to having a Hepatitis B panel and HIV test. The patient is not required to do this and is only requested to have the testing. If the tests are performed, the HIV test is repeated in six months. Results of the tests are made available to the student, if the patient consents. Some offices may not do this since the student is not an employee and the cost is incurred by the dental office.