



High Desert Health System POLICY AND PROCEDURE

POLICY NUMBER: 617
VERSION: 1

SUBJECT: BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS POST EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS NEEDLESTICK KIT PROTOCOL

PURPOSE: The policy/protocol below addresses the use and maintenance of the Los Angeles County High Desert Health System (HDHS) Pharmacy "Needlestick Kits". These kits are provided by the HDHS Pharmacy in order to facilitate the immediate HIV post exposure prophylaxis (PEP) treatment of blood/body fluid exposures, per the guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

POLICY: This is a supplemental policy/protocol to the HDHS Blood/Body Fluid Post Exposure Protocol and is to be adhered to by:

- The Provider(s) prescribing and dispensing the initial HIV PEP to an exposed person.
- The Nursing and Pharmacy staff in monitoring the presence and intact integrity of the Needlestick Kits in the clinics, the expiration of the medications and the replenishment of the contents in kit as necessary.

PROCEDURE:

I. Needlestick Kits Locations:

A. The Needlestick Kits are to be located in the following locations:

- High Desert Regional Health Center (HDRHC) Urgent Care Clinic
- HDHS Employee Health Clinic
- South Valley Health Center (SVHC) Urgent Care Clinic
- HDHS Pharmacy

B. The Needlestick Kit is **not** to be taken from the premises of the Urgent Care or Employee Health clinics (except to be returned to the HDHS Pharmacy to be replenished after use of any of the medications).

C. The Needlestick Kit is **not** to be taken home by any individuals.

II. Needlestick Kit Contents:

A. The Needlestick Kit contains the medications recommended by the CDC and as determined by the HDHS Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.

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- B. The quantity of HIV PEP medication contained in the Needlestick Kit is sufficient for five (5) days of doses. Sufficient doses are to be dispensed as needed until the exposed person can receive additional medications from the HDHS pharmacy or other pharmacy per protocol.
- C. The Needlestick Kit contains the following medications and plastic vial containers:

DRUG	STRENGTH	QTY	RECOMMENDED DOSE
Raltegravir (Isentress®)	400 mg	10	400 mg PO BID
Truvada ® (Tenofovir/Emtricitabin)	300 mg/200mg	5	1 tablet (300mg/200mg) PO DAILY

III. Provider Prescribing & Dispensing Protocol:

- A. Medical evaluation and HIV PEP treatment should be offered immediately when indicated. If HIV PEP treatment is recommended it should be offered within 2 hours of when the exposure occurred.
- B. The HDHS treating provider is strongly encouraged to call the **HIV PEP Hotline** Clinician at **1-888-HIV-4911** (1-888-448-4911, National Clinicians' HIV Post-Exposure Prophylaxis Hotline). A live expert physician is available 6 AM – 11 PM PST, excluding holidays, to assist in the determination of which medications and dosage should be given to the exposed person.
- B. The provider must write a prescription for the medications to be given to the exposed person from the Needlestick Kit.
- The original white copy of the prescription is to be left in the Needlestick box kit (to be received by pharmacy).
 - A 2nd yellow copy of the prescription is to be placed in the exposed person's Employee Health medical record.
- C. The medication doses to be dispensed are to be placed in the empty vials by the provider. Six vials are provided.

Note: Only the provider (not a nurse) may put the medication into the dispensing vials.

- D. Labels are provided in the Needlestick Kit. The provider dispensing the medication is to label each vial with:
- drug name
 - dosage (mg)
 - quantity dispensed (2, 4, or 6 tablets, etc.)

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- directions on how to take the medications (already typed on the labels)
- exposed person's name
- provider's name
- initials of provider who dispensed medication
- date and time of dispensing
- lot number of the medication
- expiration date

E. Medication information sheets are included in the Needlestick Kit in English and Spanish.

- Copies of these sheets (in the appropriate language) are to be given to the exposed person receiving the medications.
- The exposed person is to be counseled regarding adverse drug reactions.
- The exposed person is to be advised to contact one of the following clinics if adverse drug reaction occurs :

Employee Health Service	661- 471-4342, or
HDRHC Urgent Care clinic	661- 471-4020, or
SVHC Urgent Care	661-272-5050

F. To continue the full course of PEP treatment, following initial post-exposure treatment, the provider will write a prescription for sufficient medication for 1 week. The exposed person is to be instructed to return to either the Employee Health Service or to their private physician within 72 hours for appropriate monitoring and to secure a new prescription to finish the 4-week (28 day) course of treatment.

IV. Maintenance & Monitoring of Needlestick Kit by Nursing & Pharmacy Staff

A. After the Needlestick Kit has been opened:

- The clinic nursing staff is to promptly notify the HDHS pharmacy at 661-471-4100.
- The pharmacy will send a new kit to the clinic (Monday to Friday).
- A partially used kit is to be retained by the clinic until a new updated kit is received.
- The clinic nursing staff will then send the opened Needlestick Kit to the pharmacy.
- If there is a need for the kit to be replenished sooner than the next pharmacy business day, the on-call pharmacist is to be notified so that kit can be replenished.

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B. Needlestick Kit routine check/inspection:

- The nursing staff will check daily (and log) for the presence of the Needlestick Kit, the intact nature of the lock and expiration date. The expiration date is listed on the Needlestick Kit stock list, which is attached to the Needlestick Kit.
- Pharmacy staff will inspect for the presence and integrity of the Needlestick Kit and for expiration dates during their routine pharmacist inspections.

REFERENCES:

[Updated \(2013\) U.S. Public Health Service Guidelines for the Management of Occupational Exposures to Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Recommendations for Postexposure Prophylaxis](#) *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology* 2013 (oPEP)

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