

Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) - Placements

Blood Borne Virus (BBV) Declaration

The current Communicable Disease Network Australia (CDNA) guidelines ([Australian National Guidelines for the Management of Healthcare Workers Living with Blood-borne Viruses and Healthcare Workers who Perform Exposure Prone Procedures at Risk of Exposure to Blood-borne Viruses](#)) provide principles to prevent the transmission and management of healthcare workers with Blood-borne viruses.

Blood-borne viruses (BBVs) are viruses that are carried in the blood and transmitted through exposure to infected blood and body fluids, including receiving infected blood products (blood transfusions), sexual intercourse, needle stick injuries, mother-to-child transmission, and during healthcare procedures, such as exposure prone procedures. The most common BBVs are Hepatitis B (HBV), Hepatitis C (HCV), and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).

Exposure prone procedures (EPPs) are procedures that increase the likelihood of an injury to the healthcare worker, which could result in the healthcare worker's blood coming into direct contact with the patient's blood or open tissue. Therefore, there would be an increased risk of transmitting a BBV.

EPPs are defined as 'procedures where there is a risk of injury to the healthcare worker resulting in exposure of the patient's open tissues to the blood of the healthcare worker. These procedures include those where the healthcare worker's hands (whether gloved or not) may be in contact with sharp instruments, needle tips, or sharp tissues (spicules of bone or teeth) inside a patient's open body cavity, wound, or confined anatomical space where the hands or fingertips may not be completely visible at all times'¹.

Although the risk is very low, healthcare workers have a responsibility to protect the health and safety of their patients, hence they must take reasonable steps to know their BBV status. These include:

- Being aware of their BBV status.
- Being tested for BBVs at or before commencing their placements.
- Being tested for BBVs at least once every three years.

All students studying Medicine, Oral Health, and Paramedicine, who may be required to undertake EPPs, must complete this document before their first placement and every three years after testing. Students will only be permitted to undertake a placement if they have submitted this form.

SECTION ONE: Student Details	
Student Name:	
Date of Birth:	Student ID:
University Email:	Mobile:
Course Name:	Course Code:

¹ CDNA National Guidelines - Healthcare workers who live with blood borne viruses, perform exposure prone procedures, or are at risk of exposure to BBVs. Australian Centre for Disease Control. [CDNA National Guidelines – Healthcare workers who live with blood borne viruses, perform exposure prone procedures, or are at risk of exposure to BBVs | Australian Centre for Disease Control](#).

SECTION TWO: Student Declaration

I, (please print full name) have read the Australian National Guidelines for the Management of Healthcare Workers Living with Blood-borne Viruses and Healthcare Workers who Perform Exposure Prone Procedures at Risk of Exposure to Blood-borne Viruses guidelines and understand that while on placement I may be required to undertake EPPs and am aware of the implications for me as a student.

I have (select one of the following options):

- I have undergone testing for blood-borne viruses[#] at the commencement of my study in Australia or within the 12 months before commencing my studies.
- I have undergone a repeat test for BBVs within the last three-year period from the date of my last test.

The date of my last test was:

Date:/...../.....

I agree to:

- Be tested for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and HIV at least once every three years.
- Have appropriate testing and follow-up care after a potential occupational exposure associated with a risk of a BBV.
- Have appropriate testing and follow-up care after a potential non-occupational exposure, with testing frequency related to risk of virus transmission.
- Cease performing all EPPs if diagnosed with a BBV until all criteria in the guidelines are met.

[#] Relevant blood-borne viruses are Hepatitis B (HBV), Hepatitis C (HCV), and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).

SECTION FOUR: Student Signature

I acknowledge that my personal information has been collected by Charles Darwin University to determine my ability to safely undertake a professional placement. This information will only be used for the purpose it was collected in accordance with the Information Act 2002, Privacy Act 1988, and the university's Privacy and Confidentiality Policy.

Student Name:

Signature:

Date:/...../.....

Once completed, this document needs to be uploaded in to InPlace.