Action to be taken following needlestick / sharps / splash injury
with exposure to potentially infectious material

Immediate irrigation

Wounds:
• encourage bleeding – do not suck
• wash well under running water using soap (do not scrub)
• cover with a dry dressing

Splash incidents:
• If in the mouth: do not swallow, rinse mouth out several times with cold water
• If into eyes: remove contact lenses
• irrigate eyes well with cold, running water

Report the incident to the senior person on duty, and immediately:
Contact the Occupational Health Service 01865 (2)82676 (weekdays: 8.30 – 17.00)
(or, if out of hours / difficulty in making contact the on-call microbiologist at the John Radcliffe Hospital via the switchboard 01865 -741166 or go to the Accident and Emergency Department at the John Radcliffe Hospital if injured / bitten by an animal)

And
Record details of the source of the (potentially) infectious material, if known

Ensure that the University Occupational Health Service (2)82676, 10 Parks road, Oxford, is notified of the incident the next working day
Complete an accident form and send to the University Safety Office, 10 Parks Road, Oxford

Blood-borne virus risk may arise from:
Human blood, amniotic fluid, cerebrospinal fluid, breast milk, pericardial fluid, peritoneal fluid, pleural fluid, saliva, synovial fluid, semen, vaginal secretions, unfixed human tissue, any visibly bloodstained fluid, exudate from burns or skin lesions;
And
be introduced via any break in the skin (needle, bite, cut) or a splash to the eye or mouth.