Sharps, Scratches and Bite Injuries

The following action must be taken in the event of a sharp injury, exposure to blood or bodily fluids or a bite from a patient.

- encourage bleeding by squeezing the puncture wound site;
- flush the affected area gently with soap and water - **do not suck the puncture site**
- cover with a waterproof dressing, if appropriate;
- irrigate with water if splashing has occurred to eyes or other mucous membrane;
- inform the senior member of staff immediately;
- complete a Datix incident form. If known, include the name of the patient from whom the sharp injury or bodily fluids came from.

Important Contact Details

**Injury during working hours**
Contact Optima Health immediately 09:00-17:00 on 0345 643 4368

**Injury out of working hours**
Contact your nearest Accident and Emergency Department. Please contact Optima Health the following working day on 0345 643 4368

Tel: 0345 643 4368