

Section: Medical Exposure Control Plan – Exposure Procedures  
Subject: POST EXPOSURE MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES  
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1. The Hillsborough County Fire Rescue Infection Control Officer (ICO) is available 24 hours a day – 7 days a week via pager at **(813) 268-3888**.
2. When a member of Hillsborough County Fire Rescue has a known or suspected exposure to any pathogen (i.e., blood or other potentially infectious material), they shall:
  - a. Notify the ICO immediately via page at (813) 268-3888.
    - i. Enter the telephone number where you can be reached and then **do not use that phone**.
    - ii. The ICO shall return your call in a timely manner.
  - b. The ICO shall document your verbal report and evaluate what engineering and/or work practice controls were in place at the time of exposure (i.e. what personal protective equipment was utilized).
    - i. This is in an effort to determine if an actual exposure occurred.
  - c. If the ICO determines that a blood or other potentially infectious material exposure has occurred, the ICO will immediately remove the member from duty.
    - i. The ICO shall arrange for the member to be seen immediately by the appropriate Workers' Compensation provider.
    - ii. If the exposure is to an airborne pathogen, the ICO shall arrange for the member to be seen as soon as possible, taking into consideration existing variables before removing the member from duty.
  - d. The ICO shall inform the exposed member's Battalion Chief of the exposure, the member's duty status, and to which facility the member is being sent for medical evaluation.
    - i. The department shall notify the Workers' Compensation carrier and the Personnel Chief.
  - e. The ICO shall make contact with the Infection Control or Emergency Room Charge Nurse at the receiving facility of the source patient.
    - i. The source patient shall be identified, informed of the exposure, and permission secured to run baseline screenings.
    - ii. Request for notification, and source patient blood banking shall be done, if necessary.
  - f. A written request of the source patient blood shall be given to the Infection Control Nurse at the receiving facility along with the type of exposure.
  - g. The ICO shall remediate the exposed member as needed and shall be available for counseling.
    - i. A report of the exposure incident, with any recommendations for abatement, shall be made to the Personnel Chief, Operations Chief, and/or Rescue Chief, as appropriate.