

## **HEPATITIS B PREVENTION/POST EXPOSURE FOLLOW-UP**

### **General**

The following policy supersedes that contained in the PEP Policy and Procedures Manual (Article 5.06) dated July 15, 1998.

### **Policy**

1. PEP will provide Hepatitis B shots to volunteers who face the risk of exposure to body fluids during SAR and vehicle extrication operations. Furthermore, any volunteer exposed to body fluids as the result of an authorized task may seek post-exposure treatment which will be reimbursed by PEP as part of task expenses.

### **Conditions**

1. Universal precautions, including the wearing of latex gloves and employment of face (eye/nose/mouth) protection must be observed as appropriate to prevent contact with body fluids.
2. Regional staff are NOT to provide advice on whether a hepatitis immunization program should be instituted but rather advise groups to discuss requirement with medical professionals.

### **Procedure**

#### ***Prevention***

1. Groups should discuss the merits of hepatitis vaccination with local health officials before commencing their immunization program and making arrangements for vaccine.
2. Obtain PEP Task Number through PEP Regional Manager.
3. Arrange for an appropriately qualified medical professional to administer shot(s).

4. Forward Expense Reimbursement Request, together with invoice and Task Registration Form, to applicable Regional Manager for approval and submission to PEP Headquarters for payment/reimbursement.

***Post Exposure***

5. Volunteer must be advised to seek medical attention immediately after direct contact with body fluids.
6. When a volunteer(s) has been exposed to body fluids the incident Task Report must reflect specific exposure details and identify the volunteer(s) specifically by name.
7. Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) forms are NOT required to be completed for exposure to body fluids.

Signed By

Mervin W.C. Harrower  
Director

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