Medical student experiences an injury in a clinical setting

Immediate response

Student:
- informs Supervisor

Supervisor:
- arranges for sample testing in cases of potential exposure to infectious disease (e.g. needle-stick)
- contacts Academy Director, course director, or site director if student is incapacitated (e.g. major injury)

0-2 Hours after accident
Student: accesses emergency care as follows, depending on their location:

If accident occurs in an affiliated hospital
Student:
- is considered to have suffered a ‘workplace injury’
- goes to Occupational Health (or equivalent) in the hospital (outside business hours, follow the hospital's after-hours protocol)
- presents badge to intake staff
Health care provider:
- completes workplace incident report
- gives copy of all reports to student

If accident occurs in the community/outside GTA
Student:
- goes to the Emergency Department of the nearest hospital
- informs the health care providers that they are a U of T medical student
- asks for a workplace incident report to be completed, or a suitable alternative
- asks for copies of any completed incident report

0-3 days after accident
Student:
- follows treatment regimen prescribed by initial care provider (e.g. PEP in the case of potential exposure)
- liaises with Supervisor regarding whether sample was obtained from patient (in cases of potential exposure)
- informs their Academy Director of the accident
Academy Director:
- opens confidential file on the accident (even if follow-up is not required)
- assesses student’s non-medical needs
- confirms with student that an appropriate referral has been obtained (if relevant) – if not, makes arrangements for this to occur with Occupational Health unit, or other service
- ensures that contact with U of T WSIB Administrator has been made regarding a possible claim
- ensures coordination and distribution and completion of paperwork for claim (if relevant)
- coordinates submission of paperwork for claim to U of T WSIB Administrator (if relevant)

NB: Paperwork may be needed from Faculty Registrar, Occupational Health Unit, Hospital Senior Administrator, student, etc.
- may contact Associate Dean OHPSA if additional student support is needed

Subsequently
Student:
- attends follow-up referral and care as arranged
- complies with instructions from WSIB or other insurer regarding documentation required
Follow-up care provider:
- liaises with site of the accident/site of initial care regarding need and/or outcome of sample testing, initial treatment prescribed, etc.
Academy Director:
- maintains contact with student regarding emerging or unresolved concerns
Associate Dean OHPSA:
- coordinates support for student as requested

Tracking
Academy Director:
- records incident for statistical tracking
- reports the incident (in non-identifying way) to the Academy Director’s Committee
All Academy Directors:
- collaborate on Annual Report on Student Injury in Clinical Settings

In the event that the exposure leads to a confirmed infection
Student:
- is required to report infection to Associate Dean OHPSA or Academy Director – this is for patient safety
Academy Director:
- shares information with Associate Dean OHPSA
Associate Dean OHPSA:
- refers case to Expert Panel on Infection Control
Expert Panel on Infection Control:
- responds as per Infectious Diseases and Occupational Health for Applicants to and Trainees of the Faculty of Medicine Academic Programs

Institutional response
All Academy Directors:
- develop recommendations as warranted related to student injury and exposure
Vice Dean MD Program:
- reviews Annual Report on Student Injury in Clinical Settings
- responds to any concerns highlighted in report by introducing appropriate measures

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