

Lentivirus and Lentiviral Vector Post Exposure Plan

Researchers exposed to lentiviruses in the lab need to take immediate action to ensure their safety and should seek medical attention within 2-72 hours of exposure, the sooner the better.

First Aid

- (Intact) Mucous membrane exposure: Flush eyes, nose, and or mouth for 15 minutes with water
 - Intact skin: Wash with soap and water for 5 minutes
 - Non-Intact skin (chapped skin, open sores, etc): Wash with soap and water for 15 minutes
- For emergency assistance, call 216.368.3333**

Medical Evaluation

- Needlestick exposures must be medically evaluated within 2-72 hours of exposure.
Contact University Health and Counseling at 216.368.2450.
- If after hours, go to University Hospitals Emergency Department (ED) for evaluation.
- Medical evaluation may include the following:
 - Baseline HIV testing (may affect PEP, exposure risk)
 - Post Exposure Prophylaxis (If recommended)

Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP)

Will be based on the risk posed by the lentivirus and the insertional risk (transgene). You should provide the details of the lentivirus vector to the medical staff.

Reporting

- Notify supervisor and complete an Injury/Illness Report Form at the earliest opportunity (CWRU Occupational Health or Environmental Health and Safety websites)
- Report the exposure to the CWRU Institutional Biosafety Committee by email at case-ibc@case.edu

Lentiviruses, such as HIV, can cause chronic and deadly disease in people and animals. Lentiviral vectors (LVs) are viruses that have been modified to deliver novel genes to cells and have been designed to allow for cargo-carrying function without concern of re-creating an infectious virus. However, LVs can still pose significant health risks to exposed researchers.

*Note: Any exposure to human blood should be medically evaluated within 72hrs due to the possibility of exposure to unknown bloodborne pathogens.



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