

## Blood Borne Viruses

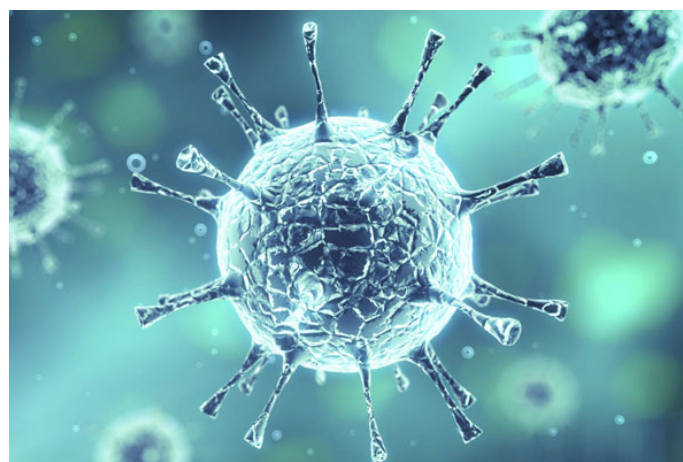
You have been given this leaflet because you may have been exposed to a blood borne virus.

A blood borne virus (BBV) is an infection that can be transmitted from one person (the donor) to another through direct contact of bodily fluids, especially blood. This can be from a used needle, a bite injury to the skin, or transmission of bodily fluids including sexual intercourse.

### The main viruses of concern are:

- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis C
- Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

The risk of you contracting a virus depends on whether the donor is known, if not, treatment is given assuming there is a lower risk of you contracting an infection.



### Risk of transmission in a HIGH RISK patient:

Hepatitis B	<b>1 in 3</b>
Hepatitis C	<b>1 in 30</b>
HIV	<b>1 in 300</b>

**YOU HAVE BEEN ASSESSED AS A LOW RISK PATIENT**

### Immediate treatment given:

- You will have an initial vaccination today to reduce your risk of hepatitis B infection.
- You will have blood taken today which will be stored in the hospital laboratory.
- THIS WILL NOT BE TESTED unless you develop any concerning symptoms.
- If your injury was caused by a human bite – you will also need a course of antibiotic tablets to protect against bacterial skin infections.
- Because you are low risk, you do not need any further treatment today.

continued over the page

**Emergency Department  
and Minor Injury Unit**  
Patient information

## Further treatment required:

- 2 further hepatitis B vaccinations from your GP: in 1 month and 2 months.
- You need blood tests at your GP surgery in 3 months for hepatitis B/C and HIV.
- You should use condoms if you engage in any sexual activity until then.
- You should not donate blood for the next 6 months and only if you have tested negative for any BBV.
- You may need a 'booster' hepatitis B vaccine in 12 months.

IT IS UP TO YOU TO MAKE THESE APPOINTMENTS WITH YOUR GP

**You should seek urgent medical advice if you develop a fever or if you become unwell in the next 3 months.**

## Further treatment required:

Date of first  
vaccination today:

Second due  
1 month from today:

Third due  
2 months from today:

.....

.....

.....

### Further Information

For further advice and information about your condition, please choose from the following:

- 'NHS Patient Choices' website: [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)
- 'Making Lives Better' patient website: [www.patient.info](http://www.patient.info)
- Telephone NHS 111
- Contact your General Practitioner

### Contact details:

The James Cook University Hospital: 01642 850850  
Marton Road, Middlesbrough, TS4 3BW

The Friarage: 01609 779911  
Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL6 1JG

Redcar Primary Care Hospital: 01642 511000  
West Dyke Road, Redcar, TS10 4NW

To ensure we meet your communication needs please inform the Patient Experience Department of any special requirements, i.e. Braille/ Large Print.  
T: 01642 835964 E: [stees.patient.experience@nhs.net](mailto:stees.patient.experience@nhs.net)

The James Cook University Hospital,  
Marton Road, Middlesbrough, TS4 3BW. Tel: 01642 850850

Author: Emergency Department and Minor Injury Unit  
Issue Date: March 2021 Review Date: March 2023

ST1597