

Answers

Management of health care workers following occupational exposure to hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and human immunodeficiency virus
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CME point[#] / CNE point: 1 / PEM point: 1 (Healthcare related which contributes to the enhancement of professionalism of midwives/nurses)

Please contact respective authorities directly for CME/CPD accreditation if it is not on listed below.

Accreditors	CME Point
Department of Health (for practising doctors who are not taking CME programme for specialists)	1
Anaesthesiologists	0
Community Medicine	1
Dental Surgeons	1
Emergency Medicine	1
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Obstetricians and Gynaecologists	0
Ophthalmologists	1
Orthopaedic Surgeons	1
Otorhinolaryngologists	pending
Paediatricians	pending
Pathologists	1
Physicians	0
Psychiatrists	1
Radiologists	1
Surgeons	1

- Which of the following about occupational exposure to hepatitis B, hepatitis C and HIV is true?
 - Hepatitis B, hepatitis C and HIV, in descending order, are commonly transmitted by needlestick injury in the health care setting.
 - Injured health care workers in Hong Kong should call at one of the three designated clinics for immediate management.
 - Overseas guidelines are used for guidance in management as no local guidelines are available.
 - The Therapeutic Prevention Clinic (TPC) of the Department of Health caters only for exposed staff of the Department of Health.
 - None of the above ✓**
- Which of the following alone does NOT constitute high risk exposure?
 - Use of solid bore needle ✓**
 - Deep percutaneous injury
 - Device that has been placed in a blood vessel
 - Source patient with AIDS
 - Device that is visibly contaminated with blood

3. Which of the following is NOT counted as health care workers among those referred to TPC?
 - (a). Ward attendants
 - (b). Phlebotomist
 - (c). Inoculators
 - (d). **Workman of sheltered workshop** ✓
 - (e). None of the above

4. Which of the following statement is true for HIV post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)?
 - (a). Used alone, zidovudine achieves only an 18% reduction in risk of HIV seroconversion after percutaneous exposure to HIV infected blood.
 - (b). PEP is effective only if given within 24 hours of exposure.
 - (c). Drug-related adverse events were uncommonly seen in recipients of PEP and most of them were considered mild.
 - (d). **The recommended PEP regimen comprises a combination of three drugs to be given for four weeks.** ✓
 - (e). None of the above.

5. Which of the following is true of post-exposure prophylaxis against hepatitis B and hepatitis C?
 - (a). Hepatitis B immunoglobulin (HBIG) should be given whenever the source is known to be HbeAg positive, regardless of the immune status of the exposed health care worker.
 - (b). After HBIG is given, hepatitis B vaccination should be postponed for at least 6 months to avoid interference of response.
 - (c). If available, direct acting antivirals should be given for post-exposure prophylaxis to hepatitis C.
 - (d). Health care workers attending the A&E Department should be given priority assessment at triage.
 - (e). **None of the above.** ✓

6. In the cohort of injured health care workers followed by TPC, which of the following is NOT true?
 - (a). The majority of exposures was classified as superficial.
 - (b). **Blood contaminated-fluid, not blood, was the most commonly implicated source of exposure.** ✓
 - (c). The device most often implicated was a hollow-bore needle.
 - (d). 6.6% of health care workers indicated that they had not used any personal protective equipment.
 - (e). Infection status of the source was unknown in the majority of cases

7. Which of the following is among the common procedures involved in occupational exposure to blood-borne viruses?
 - (a). Blood taking or intravenous catheter insertion
 - (b). Injection, including recapping of needles
 - (c). Cleaning or tidying up after procedures
 - (d). Bedside or treatment room procedures
 - (e). **All of the above** ✓

8. Which of the following is NOT true regarding the care and clinical outcome of the cohort of health care workers followed by TPC?
- (a). About half of the injured health care workers received medical attention within 2 hours.
 - (b). Drug related adverse effects were seen in 88.6% of PEP recipients and led to termination of PEP in some.
 - (c). 89% managed to start PEP within 24 hours.
 - (d). **Two of the exposed health care workers tested positive for HIV at baseline.** ✓
 - (e). None of the above.
9. Which of the following advice should be strengthened in the health care setting?
- (a). Avoidance of recapping needles
 - (b). Wearing of gloves when performing blood taking
 - (c). Disposing of used needles directly into sharps box
 - (d). Employment of needleless device where possible
 - (e). **All of the above** ✓
10. Which of the following is not an explanation why there was no HIV seroconversion in this cohort?
- (a). The general prevalence of HIV in Hong Kong is low at 0.1%
 - (b). All health care workers exposed to known HIV infected source were started on PEP
 - (c). **The risk of HIV seroconversion following percutaneous exposure to HIV infected blood is low at 3-10%.** ✓
 - (d). All of the above