

MANAGEMENT OF SUSPECTED EXPOSURE TO MACACINE ALPHAHERPESVIRUS 1 (B VIRUS) PROCEDURE

SCOPE

This procedure relates to all activities under the management and control of Monash University in Australia and applies to affected staff, students, contractors and visitors.

PROCEDURE STATEMENT

This procedure sets out the actions that must be taken when a potential exposure to Macacine alphaherpesvirus 1 (B virus) has occurred. Exposure could result from macaque bites, scratches and contact with their bodily fluids. All exposures must be treated seriously as even minor exposure may be fatal.

1. Abbreviations

EAP	Employee Assistance Program
GP	General Practitioner
LMO	Local Medical Officer
LRH	Latrobe Regional Hospital
McHV1	Macacine alphaherpesvirus 1 (B virus)
MARP	Monash Animal Research Platform
MMC	Monash Medical Centre
NHMRC	National Health and Medical Research Council
OHNC	Occupational Health Nurse Consultant
OHP	Occupational Health Physician
OH&S	Monash Occupational Health & Safety

2. Emergency Procedures for Suspected Exposure

2.1 First Aid

The first few minutes are CRITICAL following a potential exposure to Macacine alphaherpesvirus 1 (B virus or McHV1). The following treatment must be carried out immediately following suspected exposure:

2.1.1 Wounds

- Massage wound to make it bleed.
- Immediately scrub thoroughly with povidone-iodine (Betadine) or chlorhexidine for 15 minutes.
- Rinse wound with water for 15 minutes.

2.1.2 Eyes

- Irrigate eye(s) with flowing water for 15 minutes.

2.2 Specialised First Aid Kit

A dedicated first aid kit with specialised macaque module should be available in the immediate vicinity to macaques and their cages and housing. Refer to the Tools Section for the macaque module contents list.

2.3 Notification and Reporting

The injured worker must inform their Supervisor of an exposure or suspected exposure. The manager/supervisor is responsible for carrying out the following notifications and actions:

- 2.3.1 Report incident to the Manager;
- 2.3.2 Report incident to Occupational Health Nurse Consultant (OHNC);
- 2.3.3 If neither of the above persons are available, notify the Manager, OH&S;
- 2.3.4 Report incident to Biosafety Officer and/or Safety Officer;
- 2.3.5 Report the injury using the online Hazard and Incident Reporting System; and
- 2.3.6 Notify the Veterinarian on call.

2.4 Medical Assessment at Infectious Disease Unit

This section is relevant to the injured worker, their supervisor and treating doctors. **The worker should take a copy of this procedure with them to their admission/appointment.**

CLAYTON:

- 2.4.1 Following the administration of first aid, the injured worker or their supervisor should immediately notify the OHNC, who will notify the OHP.
- 2.4.2 The OHP will subsequently arrange an appointment at the Infectious Diseases Unit at Monash Medical Centre (MMC) for medical assessment, post-exposure prophylaxis and consultation.
- 2.4.3 It is the worker's responsibility to maintain follow-up contact with their treating physician, as advised following initial consultation.

GIPPSLAND:

- 2.4.4 Following the administration of first aid, the injured worker or their supervisor should immediately notify the OHNC, who will notify the OHP.
- 2.4.5 The OHP will subsequently arrange an appointment at either the Infectious Diseases Unit at MMC or LRH for medical assessment, post-exposure prophylaxis, consultation and counselling.
- 2.4.6 It is the worker's responsibility to maintain follow up contact with their treating physician, as advised following initial consultation.

OTHER SITES:

- 2.4.7 If an exposure incident occurs at another site (e.g. during transportation of macaques between sites), the worker is to immediately receive or administer first aid and then proceed to the nearest campus and associated hospital, as outlined above.

2.5 Procedure for Exposure Occurring After Hours

This section is relevant to the injured worker, their supervisor and treating doctors. **The worker should take a copy of this procedure with them to their admission/appointment.**

CLAYTON:

- 2.5.1 Where an exposure occurs outside of business hours, the worker should follow the procedures in 2.4 for exposures occurring on Clayton campus.
- 2.5.2 The treating doctor must notify the On-Call Infectious Disease Physician at MMC and an appointment must be arranged within 24 hours of exposure.
- 2.5.3 The worker must notify their supervisor as soon as practicable. The supervisor should notify the ONHC as soon as practicable. The OHNC will immediately notify the OHP. The OHP will follow up with the treating medical team at MMC.

GIPPSLAND:

- 2.5.4 Where an exposure occurs outside of business hours, the worker should follow the procedures in 2.4 for exposures occurring on Gippsland campus.
- 2.5.5 The treating doctor must notify the On-Call Infectious Disease Physician at MMC and an appointment must be arranged within 24 hours of exposure. A 24-hour service is provided by both MMC and LRH.
- 2.5.6 Where an exposure occurs outside of business hours, the worker should follow the procedures in 2.4 for exposures occurring on Clayton campus.
- 2.5.7 The worker should take a copy of this procedure with them to MMC Emergency Department.
- 2.5.8 The treating doctor must notify the On-Call Infectious Disease Physician at MMC and an appointment must be arranged within 24 hours of exposure.
- 2.5.9 The worker must notify their supervisor as soon as practicable. The supervisor should notify the ONHC as soon as practicable. The OHNC will immediately notify the OHP. The OHP will follow up with the treating medical team at MMC.

OTHER SITES:

- 2.5.10 If an exposure incident occurs at another site (e.g. during transportation of macaques between sites), the worker is to immediately receive or administer first aid and then proceed to the nearest campus and associated hospital, as outlined above.

2.6 Course of Action for MMC Infectious Diseases Medical Team

It is important that a patient potentially exposed to B virus receives assessment from a Senior Infectious Diseases Physician.

The OHP will:

- liaise with the Infectious Diseases Physician On-Call (Registrar) and/or Senior Infectious Diseases Physician at MMC (T: (03) 9594 6666); and
- ensure the affected worker is seen for an appointment at the Infectious Diseases Unit Outpatients Clinic within 24 hours of the potential B virus exposure.

2.7 Veterinarian On-Call

The macaque is examined for any signs of disease, especially oral ulcers or vesicles on any part of the body, and information provided to the OHP and Infectious Disease Physician.

2.8 Post- Exposure Counselling

Counselling should be offered to the affected worker as soon as is reasonably practicable and may be arranged by the injured person, supervisor, OHNC, OHP or their delegate. The University's Employee Assistance Program is available 24 hours/7 days on T: 1300 360 364.

3. Medical Alert Card

Supervisors should provide people who work with or in the vicinity of macaques, their cages or housing a Medical Alert card. The worker should carry the card at all times. The card should be shown to medical staff at the treating medical facility following any suspected exposure.

4. Review of Documentation

All procedure documents, information sheets and risk management plans associated with work with macaques at Monash University must be reviewed annually by a working group composed of staff from MARP, OH&S and other persons as appropriate.

All documentation (e.g. flow charts, emergency contact details and B virus first aid information) must be reviewed and updated by the supervisor at least annually or immediately following an incident or when a change to the documentation takes place.

5. Responsibility for Implementation

A comprehensive list of OHS responsibilities is provided in the [OHS Roles, Committees and Responsibilities Procedure](#). The responsibilities specific to this procedure are summarised below.

Occupational Health Physician (OHP): The OHP is responsible for the development of procedures and provision of specialist advice on issues concerning suspected exposure to *Macacine alphaherpesvirus 1* (B virus) or any related areas when required.

Supervisor: Supervisors are responsible for carrying out a series of notifications and actions immediately after being advised of a suspected exposure to *Macacine alphaherpesvirus 1* (B virus). Refer to section 3.3.

Veterinarian: The veterinarian is responsible for the care of the monkeys, and liaising with the OHP, OHNC and OH&S in regard to clinical observations.

6. Tools

The following tools are associated with this procedure and available on the following pages:

- [Checklist for suspected B virus exposure](#)
- [Local emergency contacts for suspected exposure to MchV1 pro forma](#)
- [First aid for suspected exposure to *Macacine alphaherpesvirus 1* \(B virus\) flowchart](#)
- [First aid equipment for work with macaques](#)

7. Records

Records to be kept by	Records	To be kept for
Occupational Health & Safety (in confidential medical files)	Medical records including test results	100 years

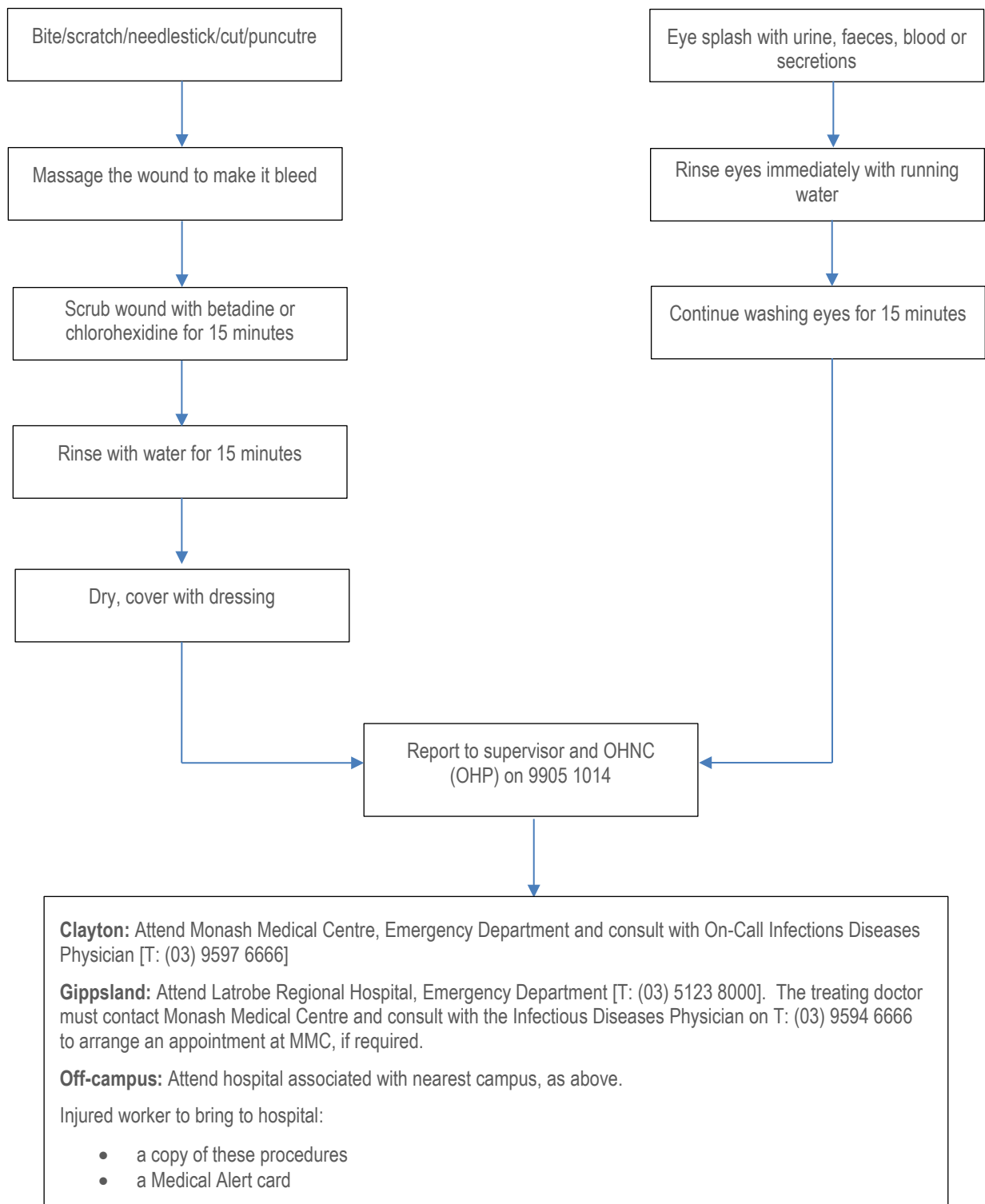
Checklist for Suspected B Virus Exposure

- Administer first aid IMMEDIATELY. It is CRITICAL that this is performed immediately after suspected exposure and uses appropriate first aid supplies and equipment
- Notify:
 - Supervisor
 - Biosafety Officer and/or Safety Officer
 - MARP Animal Services Manager
 - OHNC (who will notify OHP)
 - OH&S
 - Veterinarian
- Take copy of procedures to hospital
- Attend consultation with Infectious Diseases Specialist within 24 hours (contact Monash Medical Centre (MMC) Infectious Diseases unit physician on-call)
- Submit an incident report via S.A.R.A.H. (First Aider to submit First Aid Report form)
- Follow medical advice and prescribed treatment
- Follow up repeat medical appointments and treatment as required

Local Emergency Contacts for Suspected Exposure to McHV1

Animal Faculty Management Facility Director [INSERT NAME] Facility Manager [INSERT NAME]	T: XXXX XXXX T: XXXX XXXX
Monash University Veterinarians Dr [INSERT NAME] Dr [INSERT NAME]	T: XXXX XXXX T: XXXX XXXX
Monash Medical Centre – Infectious Diseases Unit (Clayton) Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Senior Infectious Diseases Physician (Specialist/Consultant) Infectious Diseases Registrar (On-call)	T: XXXX XXXX
Latrobe Regional Hospital – Emergency Department Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Infectious Diseases Registrar (On-call) Local Medical Officer	T: XXXX XXXX
OH&S Monash University Manager OH&S [INSERT NAME] Occupational Health Nurse Consultant [INSERT NAME] OHS Consultant Monash Animal Research Platform [INSERT NAME] OH&S Helpdesk	T: XXXX XXXX T: XXXX XXXX T: XXXX XXXX T: XXXX XXXX
After Hours Contacts [INSERT NAME] [INSERT NAME]	T: XXXX XXXX T: XXXX XXXX
Monash Employee Assistance Provider (24 hours/7 days)	T: XXXX XXXX
Date Effective: MM/YYYY	Date of Next Review: MM/YYYY

First Aid for Suspected Exposure to *Macacine Alpha*herpesvirus 1 (B Virus)



Report the incident to Biosafety Officer and/or Safety Officer and complete OH&S Hazard and Incident Report via [S.A.R.A.H.](#)

First Aid Equipment for Work with Macaques

Refer to [First Aid Procedure](#)

Equipment

1. Facilities to administer continuous stream of fresh water for at least 15 minutes
2. First aid kit including macaque module, clearly labelled "FIRST AID KIT – MACAQUE MODULE"

Macaque First Aid Module Contents

1. Disposable scrubbing brush (e.g. nail brush) x 2
2. Large basin for soaking wounds x 1
3. Povidone-iodine (e.g. Betadine) or chlorhexidine 500mL bottle x 2
4. Sterile gauze pads (various sizes) for soaking and dressing of wounds x 8
5. Non-adherent dressing (e.g. Melolin), various sizes x 4
6. Surgical tape (e.g. Micropore) x 1 roll
7. Crepe bandages (e.g. HandyCrepe), 7.5cm x 1.5m size or larger x 2
8. Eyewash (e.g. Eye Stream) 500mL bottle x 2
9. Nitrile gloves x 8 pairs
10. Biohazard bags (e.g. 27 litre - 500mm x 600mm) x 2
11. [First Aid Report Form](#) x 1

Written Procedures

1. Laminated B virus First Aid Flow Chart x 1
2. Management of Suspected Exposure to *Macacine alphaherpesvirus 1* (B virus) Procedure x 2

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Where can we get Medical Alert cards to carry to alert medical personnel to the fact that we work with macaques?**

Your supervisor will provide Medical Alert cards to all workers who may come into contact with macaques.

2. **Why should I carry a Medical Alert card indicating that I have been around macaques?**

In the past, individuals who have been infected by B virus, but not treated early enough to prevent fatality, have shown up in emergency rooms disoriented, distressed, and unable to provide useful information to medical personnel. These cards will alert healthcare workers to the fact that you work or have worked with macaques. As a result they can order tests that can quickly rule out whether your symptoms are due to B virus.

DEFINITIONS

A comprehensive list of definitions is provided in the [Definitions tool](#). Definitions specific to this procedure are provided below.

Key word	Definition
Occupational Health Physician (OHP)	Occupational Health Physician is a highly trained medical specialist and member of Occupational Health and Safety. The OHP provides a wide range of services relating to the health of staff and students, including injury prevention, treatment and rehabilitation.
Veterinarian	Veterinarians are tertiary qualified professionals whose specialty is in diagnosing and treating sickness, disease and injury in all types of animals.

GOVERNANCE

Parent policy	OHS Policy
Supporting schedules	N/A
Associated procedures	<p>Australian and International Standards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AS/NZS 4801:2001 Occupational Health & Safety Management Systems – specifications with guidance for use. OHSAS 18001:2007 Occupational Health & Safety Management Systems – Requirements <p>Codes and Other Guidance Documents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHMRC - The Principles and guidelines for the care and use of non-human primates for scientific purposes, 2016 <p>Monash University Documents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Aid Procedure Guidelines for the Development of Safe Work Instructions Managing OHS Hazards and Incidents Procedure OHS Roles, Responsibilities and Committees Procedure OHS Risk Management Procedure Risk Management Guidelines - Biological
Legislation mandating compliance	Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 (Vic)
Category	Operational
Endorsement	Monash University OHS Committee 17 November 2020
Approval	Office of the Chief Operating Officer & Senior Vice-President (a delegate of the President & Vice-Chancellor) 1 December 2020
Procedure owner	Manager, OH&S
Date effective	December 2020
Review date	2023
Version	5.0
Content enquiries	ohshelpline@monash.edu

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Version	Date Approved	Changes made to document
2	August 2012	Procedures for the management of suspected exposure to Cercopithecine herpesvirus 1 (B Virus), v2
3	November 2014	Management of suspected exposure to Cercopithecine herpesvirus 1 (B Virus) Procedure, v3
3.1	July 2015	Updated hyperlinks throughout to new OH&S website
3.2	August 2017	Updated logos in header.
4	December 2017	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All information regarding swabbing the macaque and human have been removed. Treatment is not based on the results of any of these tests and even swabbing can delay worker receiving the appropriate Medical attention. 2. Notification to Safety Officer was added. 3. MARP manager was replaced with 'manager', as macaques are also handled at non-MARP facilities, where relevant managements needs to be notified.
5	December 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Updated virus taxonomy. 5. Procedure title changed . 6. Changed references to 'staff/student' to 'worker'. 7. Provided separate instructions for exposure management process at Clayton and Gippsland campuses . 8. Provided additional instructions for exposure occurring outside of Monash campuses. 9. Updated information regarding role of Veterinarian.