

Monash University Procedure

Procedure Title	Management of suspected exposure to Cercopithecine herpesvirus 1 (B Virus) Procedure
Parent Policy	OHS Policy
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Procedure Owner	Manager, OH&S
Category	Operational
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Scope	This procedure applies to staff, students, contractors and visitors at Monash University.
Purpose	This procedure sets out the actions that must be taken when a potential exposure to <i>Cercopithecine herpesvirus 1</i> (B-Virus) has occurred. Exposure could result from bites, scratches, needle stick puncture or eye exposure when handling macaque monkeys and even minor exposure can result in fatality.

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1. Abbreviations

CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna & Flora
EAP	Employee Assistance Program
GP	General Practitioner
LMO	Local Medical Officer
LRH	Latrobe Regional Hospital
MARP	Monash Animal Research Platform
MMC	Monash Medical Centre
NHMRC	National Health and Medical Research Council
OHP	Occupational Health Physician
OHNC	Occupational Health Nurse Consultant
OH&S	Monash Occupational Health and Safety

2. Definitions

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

Occupational Health Physician (OHP): Occupational Health Physician is a highly trained medical specialist and member of Occupational Health and Safety, who provides a wide range of services relating to the health of staff/students. This may encompass prevention, treatment and rehabilitation.

Veterinarian: Veterinarians are tertiary trained professionals whose specialty is in diagnosing and treating sickness, disease and injury in all types of animals.

3. Emergency Procedures for Suspected Exposure

A summarised version of the procedure is available as a checklist in Section 10.

3.1. First Aid (Applicable to Persons Exposed and Trained Staff)

Adequate and timely First Aid in the first few minutes following suspected exposure is CRITICAL for prevention of B-Virus infection.

Wound:

- 3.1.1. Massage wound to make it bleed;
- 3.1.2. Immediately scrub thoroughly with betadine or chlorhexidine for 15 minutes; and
- 3.1.3. Rinse well with water.

Eye:

- 3.1.4. Irrigate with flowing water for 15 minutes.

3.2. **First Aid Kit**

A dedicated first aid kit for use following suspected exposure to macaques should be available in the immediate vicinity. Contents of the first aid kit are detailed on page 10.

3.3. **Notifications and Reporting**

The injured staff member/student must inform their supervisor who is then responsible for carrying out the following notifications and actions:

- 3.3.1. Report incident to the Manager;
- 3.3.2. Report incident to Occupational Health Nurse Consultant (OHNC);
- 3.3.3. If neither of the above persons are available notify the Manager, OH&S;
- 3.3.4. Report incident to Biosafety Officer and/or Safety Officer;
- 3.3.5. Report the injury using the online [Hazard and Incident Reporting System](#); and
- 3.3.6. Notify the Veterinarian on call.

3.4. **Medical Assessment at Infectious Disease Unit**

This section is relevant to treating doctors.

Following the administration of First Aid, the injured staff member or student or their supervisor should immediately notify the OHNC, who will notify the OHP. The OHP will subsequently arrange an appointment at the Infectious Diseases Unit at Monash Medical Centre (MMC) for medical assessment, consultation and counselling. It is the staff member/students responsibility to maintain follow up contact as advised following initial consultation.

The staff member or student should take a copy of this procedure with them.

3.5. **Procedure for Exposure Occurring After Hours**

This section is relevant to treating doctors.

- 3.5.1. Where an exposure incident occurs outside of business hours, the staff member or student should take a copy of this procedure with them to the local hospital or nominated GP.
- 3.5.2. The treating doctor must notify the On-Call Infectious Disease Physician at MMC and an appointment must be arranged within 24 hours of exposure. A 24-hour service is provided by both MMC and the local hospital.
- 3.5.3. It is the staff member/students responsibility to maintain follow up contact as advised following initial consultation.

3.6. **Post-Exposure Counselling**

Counselling of the patient should be offered as soon as is reasonably practicable and may be arranged by the person, supervisor, OHP or their delegate. The University's Employee Assistance Program is available 24 hours a day on 1300 360 364.

3.7. **Advice For MMC Infectious Diseases Physician On-Call**

- A patient potentially exposed to the B virus is a difficult clinical problem requiring Senior Infectious Diseases Physicians conversant with up-to-date information on the disease.
- An appointment to be seen within 24 hours of the potential B Virus exposure must be made with the Infectious Diseases Unit Outpatients Clinic. Call MMC (03) 9594 6666 and ask for the Infectious Diseases On-Call Registrar. Arrangements will be made at this time.

3.8. **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.

4. **Medical Alert Card**

Your Supervisor will provide a medical alert card that must be carried at all times by staff and students with a potential for occupational exposure to macaque monkeys. This must be shown to medical staff at the clinic or hospital following any suspected exposure.

5. **Review of Documentation**

All procedure documents, information sheets and risk management plans associated with the use of 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.

6. **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 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 *Cercopithecine herpesvirus 1* (B-Virus). Refer to section 3.4.

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

7. **Tools**

The following tools are associated with this procedure:

- Checklist for suspected B-Virus Exposure
- Emergency Contacts Proforma
- First Aid Flowchart

8. 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

Status	Revised
Approval Body	Monash University OHS Committee
Legislation Mandating Compliance	Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 (Vic)
Related Policies	OHS Policy
Related Documents	<p>Australian and International Standards</p> <p>AS/NZS 4801:2001 Occupational Health & Safety Management Systems – specifications with guidance for use.</p> <p>OHSAS 18001:2007 Occupational Health & Safety Management Systems – Requirements</p> <p>Codes and Other Guidance Documents</p> <p>NHMRC - Policy on the Care and Use of Non-Human Primates for Scientific Purposes 2011</p> <p>Monash University Documents</p> <p>Hazard & incident reporting, investigation & recording procedure</p> <p>Guidelines for the Development of Safe Work Instructions</p> <p>OHS Roles, Responsibilities and Committees Procedure</p> <p>OHS Risk Management Procedure</p> <p>Risk Management Program</p> <p>First Aid Procedure</p>

9. Document History

Version	Date of Issue	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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 staff/student receiving the appropriate Medical attention. • Notification to Safety Officer was added. • MARP manager was replaced with 'manager', as macaques are also handled at non-MARP facilities, where relevant managements needs to be notified.

Checklist for Suspected B-Virus Exposure

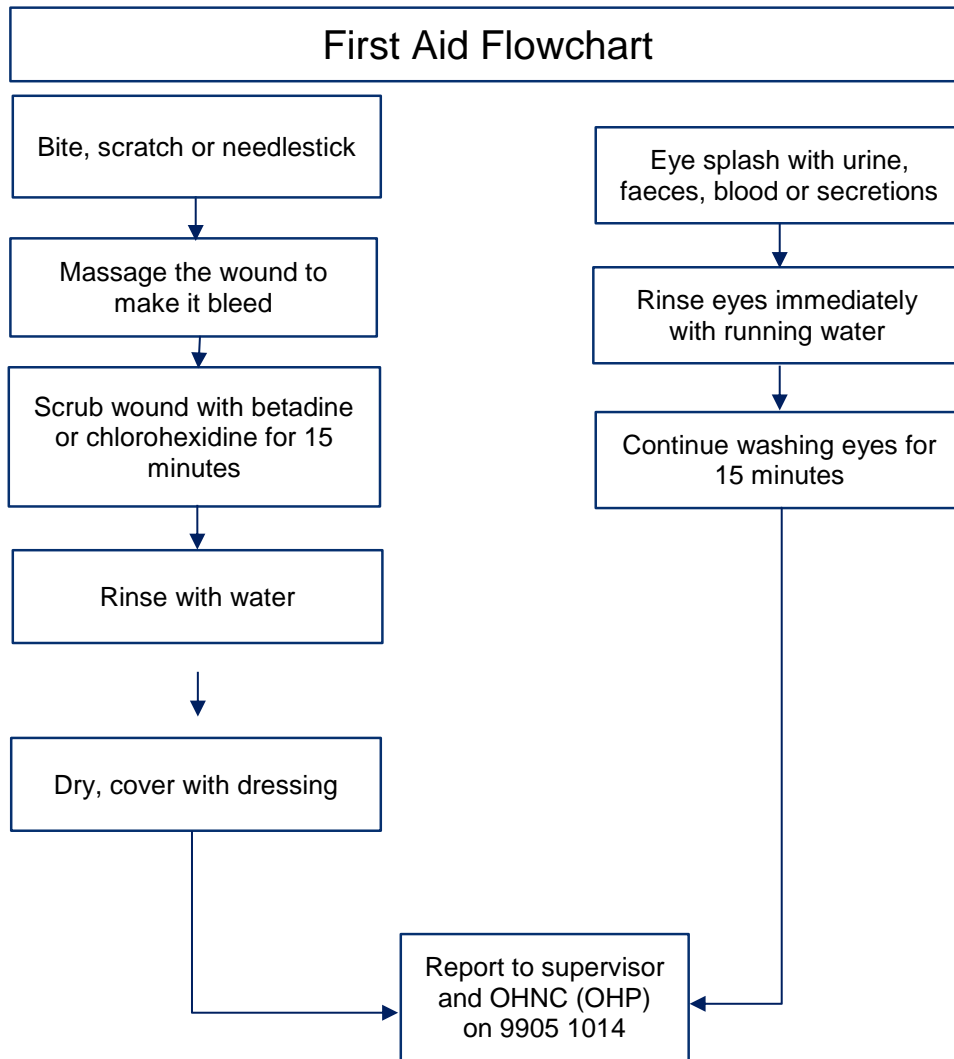
- First aid and wound cleaning – CRITICAL that this is timely and adequate!
- Specimens/samples taken
 - Consultation with Infectious Diseases Specialist within 24 hours – contact Monash Medical Centre (MMC) Infectious Diseases Unit Physician On-Call
- Notify:
 - Supervisor
 - Biosafety Officer and/or Safety Officer
 - MARP Animal Services Manager
 - OHNC (who will notify OHP)
 - OH&S
 - Veterinarian
- Incident report lodged
- Follow-up and repeat blood tests (serum specimen) in 3 weeks
- Take copy of procedures to hospital

Emergency Contacts Proforma

This proforma must be completed for each local area.

Management Director Facility Manager	XXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXX
Veterinarians Drs	BH - XXX XXXX
MMC – Infectious Diseases Unit Head and ID registrar	XXXXXXXXXX
Local Hospital Emergency Department Address 1 Address 2	XXXXXXXXXX
OH&S Monash University Manager OH&S Occupational Health Nurse Consultant OHS Consultant MARP	BH - XXX XXXX BH - XXX XXXX BH/AH - XXX XXXX
LMO at Gippsland /Clayton Dr Health Centre Address 1 Address 2	BH - XXX XXXX
Monash Employee Assistance Provider	BH - XXX XXXX
Date:	Date of Next Review:

First Aid Flowchart



Clayton:

Go to Monash Medical Centre and consult the On-Call Infections Diseases Physician on: (03) 9597 6666

Gippsland:

Go to Latrobe Regional Hospital, Emergency Department (03) 5123 8000
The treating doctor must contact Monash Medical Centre and consult with the Infectious Diseases Physician on (03) 9594 6666 to arrange an appointment at MMC as necessary

Take with you:

- A copy of these procedures and your medical alert card

Report the incident to Biosafety Officer and/or Safety Officer and complete OHS Hazard and Incident Report.

First Aid Kit Contents for Working with Macaque Monkeys

Refer to [First Aid Procedure](#)

Equipment

1. Eye wash facilities to ensure continuous fresh water stream for at least 15 minutes.
2. First Aid kit clearly labeled "First Aid Kit – Following Exposure to Macaques".

First Aid Kit Contents

1. Clean disposable scrub brush - (x2)
2. Basin for soaking large wounds - (x1)
3. Sterile gauze pads (different sizes) for soaking and dressing of wounds – (x8)
4. Bottle of betadine or chlorhexidine – (x2)
5. Melolin various sizes – (4 pads)
6. Micropore tape roll – (x1)
7. Bandages – (x2)
8. Eye-wash bottle (Eyestream) – (x2)
9. Surgical gloves – (8 pairs)
10. Biohazard bags bags - (x2)
11. First Aid Injury Reports – (1 x Book)

Written Procedures

1. Laminated B-Virus First Aid Flow Chart – (1 copy)
2. Management of Suspected Exposure to *Cercopithecine herpesvirus 1* (B-Virus) Procedure – (2 copies)

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 staff and students 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 health care 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.