University of St Andrews - School of Medicine Handbook

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE EXPOSURE PRONE PROCEDURE (EPP) INELIGIBLE UG STUDENTS

This advice stems from UK best practice which can be found in the Medical Schools Council publication; '<u>Medical and dental students: Health clearance for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, HIV and Tuberculosis.</u>'

1. **'Definition of exposure prone procedure (EPP).** An EPP is an invasive procedure where there is a risk that injury to the worker may result in the exposure of the patient's open tissues to the blood of the worker. These include procedures where the worker's gloved hands may be in contact with sharp instruments, needle tips or sharp tissues inside a patient's open body cavity, wound or confined anatomical space where the hands may not be completely visible at all times. (Dept. of Health 2007)

- 2. **Students and EPP**. A student may be ineligible to perform EPPs if:
 - a They decline testing for blood borne viruses (BBVs)
 - b During screening are found to be infected for BBVs

3. **Responsibilities of University of St Andrews School of Medicine**:

a To provide, via Occupational Health, appropriate support and guidance for the welfare of an EPP ineligible student.

b To respect and protect the confidentiality of a student's health details. Discussing with the student if and how health related information may be shared.

- c To ensure adjustments are made to clinical training where necessary.
- d To ensure appropriate follow up and monitoring arrangements are put in place.
- e To inform the designated single clinical contact within the health provider organisation.

4. Responsibilities of the EPP ineligible student:

a To ensure they do not undertake any exposure prone procedures.

b To conform with all Occupational Health monitoring including regular retesting if requested.

c To be responsible for ensuring that they do not put others at risk of infection with BBV.

d To be responsible for reporting promptly any accidental exposure of others to risk of infection with BBV. Contact the Pro Deans (Student Support) via <u>medsupport@st-</u><u>andrews.ac.uk</u>. If the accident occurs in a healthcare setting Occupational Health should be contacted.

I accept the responsibilities outlined above and I am aware that neglecting these responsibilities of failing to comply with restrictions may constitute a fitness to practise concern.

Signature:

Date