



## Operational Policies and Procedures

<b>Division:</b> Students	<b>Topic:</b> Laboratory Safety Procedures
Policy No. S014	Effective: September 2009
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### **Medical Laboratory Safety Procedures**

Academy Canada is committed to providing a safe workplace/environment for students, employees, clients, and visitors. It is the goal of Academy Canada to have all staff work together to control situations that could cause harm to any person on the premises. In accordance with due diligence, a collaborative effort must be taken by all to take every precaution reasonable in circumstances to avoid illness/injury.

It is the policy of Academy Canada to implement Medical Laboratory Safety procedures to reduce the risk of injury/illness in the Lab. In accordance with safe lab practices, Academy Canada will implement a Standard Protocol for Needle stick Injury during classroom and/or laboratory training and/or during work term placements. Please refer to Appendix C

### **Significance**

Blood borne pathogens are microorganisms in the blood or other body fluids that may cause illness and disease. Microorganisms are transmitted through contact with contaminated blood and body fluids. Accidental needle sticks can cause a person to come into contact with blood borne pathogens.

### **Possible Diseases**

The most common diseases from needle stick injury are HIV (human immunodeficiency virus), HBV (the Hepatitis B virus) and HCV (the Hepatitis C virus). HIV is the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome), the final and fatal stage of HIV disease. However, many people live with the HIV virus for years without developing AIDS. Hepatitis affects liver function and can also be fatal