How to proceed in suspected contamination with potentially infectious material¹ (e.g. human blood or other potentially infectious material)

**I** Needlestick and cut injuries
Immediate measures: Wash the wound immediately with water and soap and disinfect with a skin disinfectant, e.g. 60–80% alcohol.

**II** Splashes on the mucosa (e.g. in the eye)
Immediate measures: Rinse the mucosa immediately with physiological solutions or water.

**III** Exposure of damaged skin
Wash the affected area immediately with water and soap and disinfect with a skin disinfectant (see point I).

In case of infection risk: Gather information on the potentially infectious material (head of the department or laboratory).

If possible: **Save a sample of the potentially infectious material** to clarify the infectivity (HIV, HBV, HCV or others)

Go to the emergency unit immediately
(University Hospital Zurich, emergency unit, Schmelzbergstrasse 8, 8091 Zürich)
- Declare a work-related accident
- Assessment if there is a relevant exposition
- Blood sample from the affected person (vaccination status, possible serotheck)

Assessment emergency room physician: If needed an infectious diseases specialist will be contacted
- Decision on a post-exposure prophylaxis (HIV, HBV)
- Further laboratory-chemical examination e.g. at the company medical office USZ

The accident insurance will be informed by the human resources department (HRM) via accident report:
USZ: get the accident report sheet at the emergency unit USZ

¹ English is not an official language of the Swiss confederation. This translation is provided for information purposes only and has no legal force.