

TOWSON UNIVERSITY 
FIRST AID INSTRUCTIONS FOR RODENT EXPOSURES

Skin Exposure (Bite, Scratch, Scrape, Needlestick, etc.)

1. Control any excessive bleeding by applying firm pressure to skin exposure.
2. Clean the wound with soap and warm water. Gently massage deep wounds to increase contact with the soap.
3. Rinse away all the soap or it may cause irritation later. Carefully dry the area.
4. Cover the wound with clean and dry dressing (such as gauze and adhesive bandages). You can apply antibiotic ointment to the wound before covering.
5. Monitor the wound site for signs of infection, such as
 - Redness
 - Swelling
 - Heat
 - Weeping pus

Mucous Membrane Exposure (Eyes, Mouth, Nose)

1. Irrigate the exposed area with rapidly flowing water from the eyewash area for at least **15 minutes**.

Reporting Incident and Receiving Medical Attention

1. Report the incident and receive medical evaluation **if signs of infection are present**.
2. Contact your supervisor if available.
3. Contact Towson University Health Center at (410) 704-2466. If it is an emergency, contact the TU Police Department (410) 704-2133.
4. Employees should also file a First Report of Injury form with Human Resources.

Question, please contact the Environment Health and Safety Department at (410) 704-2949 or safety@towson.edu.