

First Aid instructions for Needle Stick Injuries involving livestock vaccines with a mineral oil adjuvant



Recommended treatment following accidental self-injection with Ovine Johne's Disease vaccine (Gudair) or other livestock vaccines listed in Table 1 below.

Category 1 injury (*superficial skin exposure*). Simply wash the contaminated area. If vaccine material splashes onto the mucosal surfaces (e.g. eyes) there is a greater risk of local adverse reaction — consider using topical anti-inflammatory medication.

Category 2 injury (*simple needle stick injury without injection*). Treat symptomatically (e.g. wash skin, ensure appropriate tetanus cover, consider topical anti-inflammatory medication and oral antibiotics to prevent opportunistic infection).

Category 3 injury (*injection of vaccine material*). Acute pain and inflammation (redness) are usually evident within 24 hours. Perform early surgery (within 24 hours post accident) and drainage to remove the oil-based vaccine material before it spreads or elicits a severe granulomatous reaction (see contact details below). General practitioner should refer patient to specialist surgeon as soon as possible.

Category 4 injury (*lesion that has progressed to necrosis or granulomatous ulceration*). Perform surgical debridement to remove any residual vaccine material. Skin grafting may ultimately be required. General practitioner should refer patient to specialist surgeon.

Table 1 Vaccines that may cause serious injury following NSI

Vaccine	Manufacturer	Purpose	Species
Gudair	Pfizer	OJD control/prevention	Sheep
Pilliguard	Coopers	Pink eye control/prevention	Cattle
Vibrovax	Pfizer	Vibriosis control/prevention	Cattle

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(* These surgeons have had surgical experience with Category 3 and/or 4 Needle Stick Injuries involving Gudair).