

FACT SHEET – BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

1) Bloodborne pathogens are agents, like bacteria, viruses, or fungi that are found in the blood or other body fluids of infected individuals. The most common diseases caused by exposure to bloodborne pathogens include: hepatitis B virus (HBV), hepatitis C virus (HCV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). People who carry bloodborne pathogens may not be aware that they are infested with a disease.

2) Diseases such as HBV, HCV, or HIV can be transmitted to you through the eyes, skin, nose or mouth, also known as mucous membranes, or under the skin by means of puncture. Exposure can result from cuts or puncture wounds caused by sharp objects, such as blades, needles, or knives. There is also risk of exposure in a situation where blood or body fluid is splashed on open cuts or mucous membranes.

3) HBV is a severe liver infection that is most efficiently transmitted through infected blood or body fluids. The Center for Disease Control estimates that 280,000 people are infected with HBV each year in the United States. The virus may exist in the body for up to six months before symptoms appear. HBV is a potentially life-threatening disease, and your potential for exposure should be taken seriously.

4) HCV is another disease that can be transmitted through exposure to infected blood or body fluids. Individuals who contract HCV are at risk of developing cirrhosis of the liver or liver cancer. The difference between HBV and HCV is that many people who are infected with HCV are not aware of their infection because they are not clinically ill.

5) The infection associated with HCV develops slowly. In fact, it may take as much as two or more decades before symptoms show up in your system. Unfortunately, there are no effective treatments or vaccines available to combat HCV at this time; however, blood tests can now help detect early sign of HCV infection in the bloodstream.

6) HIV is the virus that causes Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS). It is estimated that nearly 2 million Americans are infected with HIV. HIV attacks the white blood cells and eliminates the body's ability to fight infections. AIDS is a serious, life-threatening disease and currently there is no cure or vaccination for HIV.

7) A vaccination is a medical substance that helps your body fight a particular disease. When you receive one, antibodies gradually begin to develop in your body so your chance of being infected with a disease is lowered. A vaccination is not a cure, but it is a defense system that will help make your system stronger in case you're exposed to a disease. If you are at risk of being exposed to bloodborne pathogens, the vaccination should be offered following your bloodborne pathogen training and within 10 working days of your first assignment.

8) OSHA requires employers to develop a written exposure control plan for employees who are at risk of being exposed to blood and other potentially infectious material. The goal of the exposure control plan is to eliminate or minimize employees' exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials.

9) Universal precautions allow you to assume that all blood or other body fluids are infected with a disease – because you cannot tell by observation whether blood or body fluid is infected. You should exercise extreme caution when handling blood or body fluids. Before you perform any on-the-job task requiring contact with blood or body fluids, make sure you are protected with the proper equipment.

10) Personal protective equipment (PPE) includes items such as gloves, goggles, face shields, gowns, and shoe covers and acts as your first line of defense against exposure to harmful blood or body fluids. Using protective equipment may seem time-consuming; however, this step should never be skipped or compromised. Here are some additional guidelines to help you use PPE properly:

- ←• Wear PPE when handling potentially infectious materials;
- 0• Remove garments that become penetrated by blood or other potentially infectious material immediately or as soon as possible to avoid exposure;
- ←• Replace all garments that are torn or punctured;
- ←• After using PPE, clean and disinfect the equipment if it is reusable;
- ←• Remove all PPE before leaving the work area; and
- ←• Place all garments in the designated area or storage bin for cleaning, decontamination, or disposal.

11) Proper hand-washing is one of the most important steps you can take to prevent the spread of infection. Hands can act as a primary source in the transmission of disease-causing organisms. Therefore, whenever you come in contact with blood or other body fluids that may contaminate your hands, be sure to follow thorough hand-washing techniques. Each time you wash your hand, you should:

- ←• Remove any rings or jewelry;
- ←• Use warm to hot water and wet your hands thoroughly;
- ←• Use soap to create a thick lather;
- ←• Scrub your hands, between your fingers, wrists and forearms, and under your nails;
- ←• Continue scrubbing for at least 20 seconds
- ←• Rinse thoroughly under running water;
- ←• If possible, turn off the faucet with a paper towel;
- ←• Dry your hands with a single-use towel or hot-air dryer;
- ←• Use a paper towel to cover the door handle when leaving the room; and

It is best to wash your hands frequently, even if you are not aware of any contact with contaminated materials.

12) Working with sharp instruments, otherwise known as “sharps,” can put you at risk of exposure to bloodborne pathogens. A contaminated box cutter, piece of broken glass or even an infected needle can potentially puncture or cut your skin, so it is extremely important to take appropriate safety precautions when working around these types of objects. Here are some tips to handling sharps safely:

- ←• Make sure you identify where sharps containers are located in your work area;
- 0• The container should be puncture-resistant and leak-proof, and labeled with the appropriate biohazard sign;
- ←• All sharps should be disposed of in a sharps container, not in a common trash basket;
- ←• Do not open or place your hands in a sharps container;
- ←• Do not handle sharp objects such as broken glass with bare hands – use tools such as forceps, pliers, brooms and dustpans to move or pick up sharps;
- ←• Do not recap, remove, bend or shear needles; and
- ←• Replace used sharps containers often to ensure there is always ample space for disposal.

13) Avoid eating drinking or smoking in a work area where you may be potentially exposed to bloodborne pathogens. You should also avoid applying makeup or handling contact lenses in these work areas to decrease the likelihood of exposure.

14) One general rule for disposal is that all bio-hazardous materials must be placed in containers that prevent leakage. The containers should be identified by a fluorescent orange or orange/red biohazard label, or may be substituted with red containers with lettering and symbols to indicate the presence of blood or other potentially infectious materials. The person designated by your employer to dispose of bio-hazardous materials should seal the container to prevent leakage.

15) Similar to housekeeping rules for the home, the workplace should also be kept clean and sanitary to promote good health. Your employer will establish a written schedule for cleaning and decontamination methods to be used. The methods will include information such as:

- ←• The affected location within your facility;
- ←• The type of surface to be cleaned;
- ←• The type of infectious material present; and
- ←• The procedures normally performed in that area

16) If equipment or a work area becomes contaminated with blood or body fluids, it needs to be cleaned up immediately. Below are a few basic procedures you can follow when decontaminating an area:

- ←• Section off the area with a barrier, such as tape, and isolate the contaminated area;
- ←• Wear gloves to protect your hands from irritation and exposure to bloodborne pathogens;
- ←• Spread an absorbent over any blood or other potentially infectious materials;
- ←• Use a broom and dustpan to pick up any sharps;
- ←• Use bleach or a disinfectant to clean the area;
- ←• Decontaminate all work areas or equipment as soon as possible; and
- ←• Allow the area to dry before removing the barrier.

17) If you are exposed to blood or other body fluids, report the incident to your supervisor immediately. Your employer will provide you with a confidential medical evaluation and follow-up. It is important that you provide as much information as possible, as it will help the healthcare professional assess your situation and provide the necessary care.

18) Once this information is gathered, your employer will make the hepatitis B vaccination available to you, if needed, at no charge. Even if you decided not to accept the vaccination as a precautionary measure prior to the incident, you will still have the opportunity to receive the vaccination once you have had an incident exposing you to the disease. All other findings or diagnosis will remain confidential and will not be included in the written report provided to your employer.

Employee Signature

Date

1910.1030 QUIZ – BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

1) Bloodborne pathogens can cause serious diseases such as hepatitis B, hepatitis C and HIV.

True or False

2) How can bloodborne pathogens be transmitted?

- a) Eyes
- b) Skin
- c) Nose
- d) Mouth
- e) All of the above

3) If you do not work with sharp objects, you are not at risk of being exposed to bloodborne pathogens.

True or False

4) There is a vaccination currently available for hepatitis B.

True or False

5) Exposure to HIV can be prevented if you use proper safety precautions.

True or False

6) The Exposure Control Plan (ECP) details how you can eliminate or minimize exposure to bloodborne pathogens.

True or False

7) Using Universal Precautions means treating blood and body fluids as if they were NOT contaminated with infected bloodborne pathogens.

True or False

8) It is safe to skip wearing PPE if it is complicated or takes too much time to put on?

True or False

9) It is safe to use gloves that have a small puncture in them as long as you have no open wounds on your hands?

True or False

10) Using water to wash your hands is all that is needed to prevent the spread of diseases.

True or False

11) All are examples of sharps EXCEPT:

- a) Box cutters
- b) Needles
- c) Faucets
- d) Broken glass

12) You should place disposable sharps in which type of container?

- a) Cardboard box
- b) Common trash receptacle
- c) Puncture-resistant, leak-proof container
- d) Plastic bag

13) Housekeeping is only the responsibility of the custodial staff.

True or False

14) Contaminated clothing shall be removed immediately and disposed of in the appropriate biohazard bags or containers.

True or False

15) If you are exposed to bloodborne pathogens, you need to report it to your supervisor immediately.

True or False

Employee Signature

Date

TRAINING ACKNOWLEDGEMENT – BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has developed a regulation – 29 CFR part 1910.1030 (1910.1030) – to better help protect healthcare workers from bloodborne pathogen incidents in the workplace. StatGroup’s standard form contract with its clients obligates them to provide our employees with orientation and or instructions regarding their facility specific exposure control plan. In an effort to give you additional information and training regarding 1910.1030 we are providing you with an information booklet and quiz on bloodborne pathogens.

WE CANNOT PLACE YOU IN A FACILITY UNTIL YOU REVIEW THE ATTACHED FACT SHEET, COMPLETE AND RETURN THE ATTACHED 1910.1030 QUIZ, AND SIGN AND RETURN THIS TRAINING ACKNOWLEDGEMENT – BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

Materials used for training (check all that apply):

Video Fact Sheet Other (please specify)

According to 29CFR 1910.1030, those with potential exposure to bloodborne pathogens shall receive initial training on the topics listed below. Check the blank next to the topics that were covered in your bloodborne pathogens training.

<input type="checkbox"/> Types of bloodborne pathogens.....	Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, HIV, Exposure Control Plans, Preventative procedures Universal Precautions
<input type="checkbox"/> Work Practices.....	Hand-washing, Proper Handling of sharp objects, Eating, drinking or smoking in the work area, Proper labeling and transportation of hazardous materials
<input type="checkbox"/> Housekeeping.....	Decontamination, Handling contaminated equipment or laundry
<input type="checkbox"/> Vaccinations.....	Hepatitis B vaccination
<input type="checkbox"/> Post Exposure.....	Reporting incident(s), Medical evaluation Treatment and counseling

By checking the appropriate blanks above and signing this form, I certify that I have received information on the Bloodborne Pathogens standard as outlined in 29 CFR 1910.1030, et seq. I also certify that I have taken a written examination regarding the topics covered in this course. I agree to observe and follow the safe work practices as presented to me the training session(s). I also agree to obtain information on the facility specific Exposure Control Plan from the TechStat client upon arrival at the facility.

Employee Signature

Facility/Client Name

Date

Signature of Facilitator and Date
Employee has demonstrated satisfactory knowledge of the safety standards and has met the training requirements under Federal OSHA Programs.