

# Bloodborne Pathogens - General



BIOHAZARD



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# Epidemiology & Symptoms of Bloodborne Diseases

- Bloodborne pathogens
  - Microorganisms present in human blood that cause disease
    - Hepatitis B virus (HBV)
    - Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)

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# Epidemiology & Symptoms of Bloodborne Diseases

- Bloodborne pathogens
  - Exposure incident
  - Contact with blood or other potentially infectious material
    - Eyes
    - Mouth
    - Mucous membrane
    - Non-intact skin
    - Parenteral – piercing of skin or mucous membranes

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# Epidemiology & Symptoms of Bloodborne Diseases



- Bloodborne pathogens
  - Occupational exposure results from doing one's job
  - Blood and other potentially infectious materials
    - Blood
    - Certain body fluids
    - Any body fluid when blood is present

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# Contracting a Disease



- Workplace situations
- Non-work related situations

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# Exposure Control Plan

- Required whenever workers are exposed to blood/potentially infectious materials on the job
  - Identification of job classifications or tasks where exposure exists

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# Exposure Control Plan

- How and when provisions of the standard are implemented
  - Schedules and methods of
  - Communication to employees
  - Hepatitis B vaccination
  - Post-exposure evaluation and follow-up
  - Recordkeeping

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# Exposure Control Plan

- How and when provisions of the standard are implemented
  - Engineering and work practice controls
  - Personal protective equipment
  - Housekeeping
  - Procedures for evaluating an exposure incident

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# Recognize Potential Exposures

- First aid situations - follow universal precautions
- Other workplace situations



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# Engineering Controls

- Preferred means of controlling exposure
- Eliminate hazards at the source



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# Engineering Controls

- Minimizes the potential for exposure
- Regularly checked and maintained to remain effective



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# Hand-washing Facilities



- Locations
- Portable facilities

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# Hand-washing Facilities

- Procedures
  - Wash hands after removing gloves
  - Wash hands after contact with blood or potentially infectious fluids
  - Use antiseptic cleansers if sinks are unavailable, then wash as soon as possible

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# Hand-washing Facilities

- Prohibitions for areas of potential exposure
  - No eating
  - No drinking
  - No applying cosmetics or lip balm
  - No handling contact lenses



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# Work Practices

- Alter the manner in which a task is performed
- Reduce the likelihood of exposure
- Always practice universal precautions

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# General Safe Work Practices



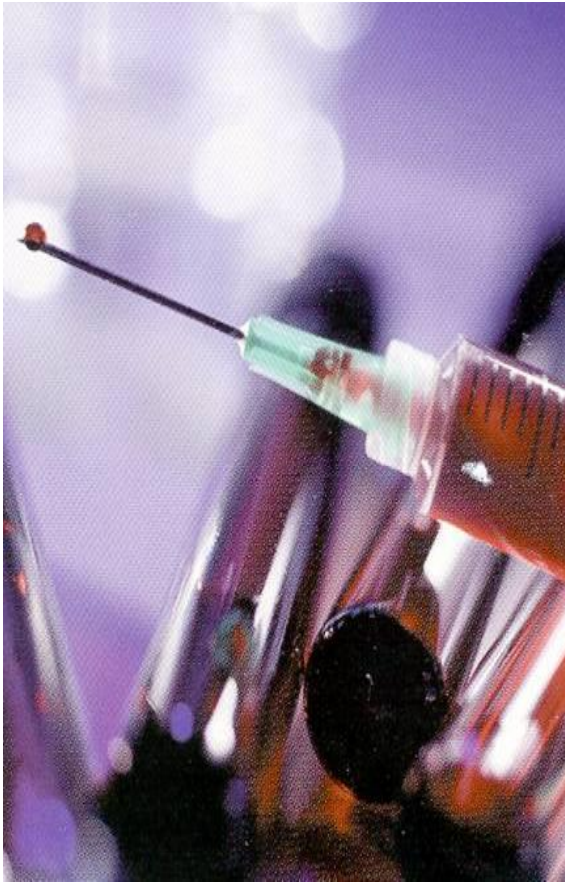
- Minimize the risk of occupational exposure
- Special clean-up procedures to be followed after an incident

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# General Safe Work Practices



- Hazards
  - Broken glass
  - Hypodermic needles
  - Towels containing contaminated fluids

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# Personal Protective Equipment



- Best defense against unexpected hazards
- Must be clean and in good repair

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# Personal Protective Equipment

- Use when potential exists for employee exposure to infectious matter
- Proper selection of PPE is based on hazard assessment

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# Personal Protective Equipment

- PPE must prevent infectious matter from passing through to:
  - Street clothes
  - Eyes
  - Skin
  - Mouth
- Hypoallergenic or powderless gloves must be made available

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# Personal Protective Equipment

- Limitations of PPE and consequences of non-use
  - Single-use gloves must be replaced if contaminated, torn or punctured
  - Never reuse single-use gloves
- PPE handling, decontamination, and disposal

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# Hepatitis B Vaccine



- Available free of charge:
  - For employees who have risk of occupational exposure
  - After an employee has experienced occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials

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# Hepatitis B Vaccine

- Pre-screening cannot be done as a condition of receiving the vaccine
- Employees refusing the vaccine must sign a declination form

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# Hepatitis B Vaccine



- Vaccine can still be provided at a future time if employee so chooses



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# Exposure Incident Response



- Report the incident
- First aid equipment
- First responders

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# Exposure Incident Response

- Study potential exposure incidents involving:
  - Eyes
  - Mouth
  - Mucous membranes
  - Non-intact skin
  - Parenteral contact



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# Exposure Incident Response

- Arrange for immediate, confidential medical evaluation which:
  - Documents how the exposure occurred
  - Identifies and tests the source individual, if possible
  - Tests the exposed employee's blood, if consent is obtained

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# Exposure Incident Response

- Arrange for immediate, confidential medical evaluation, which:
  - Provides counseling
  - Evaluates any reported illness



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# Exposure Incident Response

- Company must provide the medical professional with relevant data to complete the employee's evaluation



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# Exposure Incident Follow-up

- Medical and post-exposure evaluation procedures

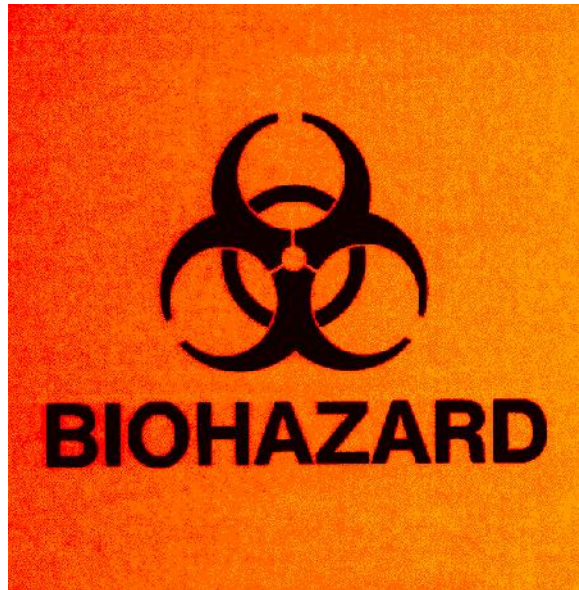


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# Signs and Labels To Warn of Biohazards



- Biohazard symbol must:
  - Be printed in fluorescent orange or orange-red
  - Have lettering of a contrasting color
- Red bags or containers may be used as a substitute for labels

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# Medical Records

- Must be made available to employees upon request and should include:
  - Name and social security number
  - Hepatitis B vaccination status
  - Results of exams, testing, and follow-up procedures



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# Medical Records

- Must be made available to employees upon request, and should include:
  - Copy of healthcare professional's opinion
  - Copy of information provided to healthcare professional

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# Medical Records

- All records are confidential
- Records can be released with the employee's written consent or if required by law
- Must be maintained for the period of employment plus 30 years

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# Summary of Bloodborne Pathogens Standard

- Written exposure control plan
- Training
- Engineering controls and work practices

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# Summary of Bloodborne Pathogens Standard



- Personal protective equipment
- Hepatitis B vaccinations
- Exposure incident response

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# Risk & Safety Management Contact

If you have any questions or would like Risk and Safety assistance with your policy, please contact us:

Albuquerque area: (505) 345-7260

Toll Free: (800) 788-8851

P.O. Box 27825

Albuquerque, NM 87125

You can also email us at [NMMSafetyAdvisor@NewMexicoMutual.com](mailto:NMMSafetyAdvisor@NewMexicoMutual.com)

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