

KEY DEFINITIONS

Bloodborne Pathogens – pathogenic microorganisms that are present in human blood and can cause disease in humans. Examples include, but are not limited to HBV and HIV.

Contaminated – the presence or the reasonably anticipated presence of blood or other potentially infectious materials on an item or surface.

Decontamination – the use of physical or chemical means to remove, inactivate, or destroy bloodborne pathogens on a surface or item to the point where they are no longer capable of transmitting infectious particles and the surface or item is rendered safe for handling, use, or disposal.

HBV – hepatitis B virus

HIV – human immunodeficiency virus

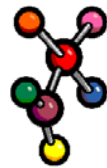
Other Potentially Infectious Materials (OPIM) – means the following human body fluids: vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluid, synovial fluid (joint lubricant), pleural fluid (around lungs), pericardial fluid (around heart); peritoneal fluid (around abdomen), amniotic fluid (surrounding fetus), saliva in dental procedures, any body fluid that is visibly contaminated with blood, all body fluids in situations where it is difficult or impossible to differentiate between body fluids, any unfixed tissue or organ from a human, and HIV- or HBV-containing cells or tissue cultures.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – is specialized clothing or equipment worn by an employee for protection against a hazard.

Universal Precautions – all human controls and certain human body fluids are treated as if known to be infectious for HIV, HBV, and other bloodborne pathogens.

EPIDEMIOLOGY & SYMPTOMS OF BLOODBORNE DISEASES

Bloodborne pathogens can enter the body in a variety of ways, including open cuts, nicks, skin abrasions, dermatitis, acne, and the mucous membranes of your mouth, eyes or nose.



Contaminated surfaces are a major cause of the spread of hepatitis. HBV can survive on environmental surfaces dried and at room temperature for up to one week.

EXPOSURE CONTROL PLAN

The Bloodborne Pathogen Standard requires employers to have a written Exposure Control Plan (ECP). The ECP provides for the protection of employees from bloodborne pathogens by providing written procedures to eliminate or minimize employee exposure to bloodborne pathogens.

The ECP lists the measures to be taken to comply with the requirements of the standard. Kent State University has also developed Infection Control Plans (ICP) for affected departments. The ICP lists specific procedures for your department including the specific PPE, Engineering Controls and Work Practice Controls required in your department.

A copy of the ECP can be obtained from the Manager, Occupational Health and Safety, located in Campus Environment and Operations. See your Department Supervisor for a copy of the Department ECP.



METHODS OF COMPLIANCE

In order to effectively eliminate or minimize exposure to bloodborne pathogens at our university, the first five areas we deal with in our Exposure Control Plan are:

1. Universal Precautions

Kent State University practices universal precautions to aide in the protection of our employees from bloodborne pathogens. Therefore, all human blood and body fluids are treated as if they are known to be infectious for HBV, HIV and other bloodborne pathogens.

2. Engineering Controls

These are the controls that isolate or remove the bloodborne pathogens hazard from the workplace.



Examples include, but are not limited to, hand washing facilities, sharps containers, signs, and labels.

3. Work Practice Controls

These controls reduce the likelihood of exposure by altering the manner in which a task is performed.

Examples include, but are not limited to, hand washing, proper sharps disposal, cleaning and disinfecting contaminated areas, and prohibiting eating, drinking, smoking, applying cosmetics and handling contact lenses in work areas where there is a reasonable likelihood of occupational exposure.

Source

Kent State University Exposure Control Plan
Kent State University Bloodborne Pathogens Training Program
OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1910.1030

4. Personal Protective Equipment

PPE is worn when there is a reasonable potential for contaminants such as bloodborne pathogens or OPIM to come in contact with the employees face, hands, shoes, etc.

Examples of PPE include, but are not limited to, disposable and utility gloves, safety glasses, laboratory coats, face shields, and masks.



5. Housekeeping Procedures

Maintaining a clean and sanitary university is an important part of our compliance program. Areas where human blood and OPIM are routinely handled are to be cleaned and disinfected on a regular basis or as needed.



Containers for regulated waste are located in each department where appropriate. These containers are orange-red in color or labeled with the appropriate biohazard warning label.

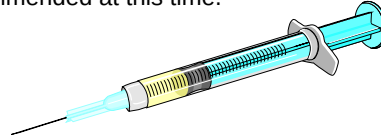
APPROPRIATE ACTIONS

- ❖ In the event of an occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens, immediately contact your supervisor.
- ❖ The supervisor will then refer you to the DeWeese Health Center for medical evaluation, treatment and follow-up.
- ❖ If the University Health Center is closed, you will be referred to Robinson Memorial Hospital for initial treatment.

HEPATITIS B VACCINATION

The Bloodborne Pathogens Standard requires employers to make the Hepatitis B vaccination series available to any employees who are at risk of an occupational exposure.

The Hepatitis B vaccine is given by injection. Three doses, given on three different dates, are needed for full protection. Booster doses are not recommended at this time.



POST-EXPOSURE EVALUATIONS & FOLLOW-UP

If an exposure incident has occurred, the affected employee shall receive prompt medical evaluation and follow-up. Treatment will include the following:

- Documentation of the route(s) of exposure and the circumstances under which the incident occurred;
- Identification and documentation of the source individual (person whose blood or OPIM was the source of exposure, if available);
- Collection and testing of blood for HBV and HIV serological status;
- Post-exposure vaccine;
- Counseling; and
- Evaluation of reported illness.



BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS



On December 6, 1991, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) published the *Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens Standard 29 CFR 1910.1030*. OSHA's intention is to "eliminate" or minimize occupational exposure to Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), and other bloodborne pathogens.

This brochure is a supplement to the Bloodborne Pathogens Training Program. For more information, contact the Manager of Environmental Health and Safety, (330) 672-1950, dbaden@kent.edu, (330) 672-9565 or dehead@kent.edu

Environmental Health and Safety