

Protect yourself.

Protect your family.

Protect the public.



How can first responders be exposed to bloodborne pathogens on the job?

- Contact of your eyes, nose, mouth, or broken skin with blood or other body fluids.
- Needlesticks or cuts from sharp objects contaminated with blood or other body fluids.
- Injury from needles or other sharp objects during pat-down searches.
- Assaults—bites, cuts, or knife penetrations.

How can you protect yourself?

- Get your hepatitis B vaccination.
- Use safety needle and sharps devices whenever possible.
- Dispose of needles and sharps properly.
- Use disposable gloves and other personal protection every time there is a potential for exposure to blood or body fluids.
- Use caution when patting down a suspect.
- Attend initial and annual bloodborne pathogens training.
- Read and understand your employer's Exposure Control Plan.

What should you do if you're exposed?

- Wash needlesticks, cuts, and all skin exposures with soap and water.
- Flush splashes to nose or mouth with water.
- Irrigate eyes with clean water, saline, or sterile wash.
- Promptly report all potential exposures to ensure you receive appropriate follow-up care.
- Immediately seek medical evaluation.

For additional information on health issues:

- National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)
www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/bbp/
1-800-CDC-INFO

on compliance issues:

- Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)
www.osha.gov/SLTC/bloodbornepathogens/index.html
1-800-321-OSHA

***Protect yourself today—
be there for your
family tomorrow.***

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