This Health Hazard Evaluation (HHE) report and any recommendations made herein are for the specific facility evaluated and may not be universally applicable. Any recommendations made are not to be considered as final statements of NIOSH policy or of any agency or individual involved. Additional HHE reports are available at http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/hhe/reports

HETA 2000-0341-2839 Dallas Institute of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine Dallas, Texas

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PREFACE

The Hazard Evaluations and Technical Assistance Branch (HETAB) of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) conducts field investigations of possible health hazards in the workplace. These investigations are conducted under the authority of Section 20(a)(6) of the Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Act of 1970, 29 U.S.C. 669(a)(6) which authorizes the Secretary of Health and Human Services, following a written request from any employer or authorized representative of employees, to determine whether any substance normally found in the place of employment has potentially toxic effects in such concentrations as used or found.

HETAB also provides, upon request, technical and consultative assistance to Federal, State, and local agencies; labor; industry; and other groups or individuals to control occupational health hazards and to prevent related trauma and disease. Mention of company names or products does not constitute endorsement by NIOSH.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND AVAILABILITY OF REPORT

This report was prepared by Yvonne Boudreau, MD, MSPH and Angela Weber, MS of HETAB, Division of Surveillance, Hazard Evaluations and Field Studies (DSHEFS). Desktop publishing was performed by Nichole Herbert and Pat Lovell. Review and preparation for printing were performed by Penny Arthur.

Copies of this report have been sent to employee and management representatives at the Dallas Institute of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration Regional Office. This report is not copyrighted and may be freely reproduced. Single copies of this report will be available for a period of three years from the date of this report. To expedite your request, include a self-addressed mailing label along with your written request to:

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For the purpose of informing affected employees, copies of this report shall be posted by the employer in a prominent place accessible to the employees for a period of 30 calendar days.

Highlights of the NIOSH Health Hazard Evaluation

of the Dallas Institute of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine

Managers at the Dallas Institute of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (DIAOM) asked investigators from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) to see if procedures at their clinic put employees at risk of exposure to certain pathogens. The primary pathogens of concern were the Hepatitis B and C viruses and the human immunodeficiency virus which are found in blood and body fluids.

What NIOSH Did

- We met with managers and employees to discuss clinic policies and procedures.
- We performed a visual inspection of the clinic procedure rooms and offices.
- We observed acupuncture, moxibustion, and cupping procedures performed at the clinic.

What NIOSH Found

- Sharps containers were generally not located within easy reach of the practitioner while treatments were being performed.
- The cupping jars, gauze, and gloves used by the practitioner were contaminated with blood during cupping procedures.
- The protective sheath around the acupuncture needles provides some protection from needlesticks. However, there is still a potential for needlesticks after the needle is removed from the patient's skin.
- An ozone generator is used to control odors from moxa smoke and other herbs.
- Latex and non-latex gloves are stored outside the treatment rooms and not within easy reach when needed.

What the DIAOM Can Do

- Insist that employees report all exposures to blood or body fluids.
- Offer Hepatitis B vaccination to employees.
- Refer employees who have had blood or body fluid exposures to a physician who is familiar with bloodborne pathogen exposures.
- Reduce exposure to latex as much as possible by providing non-latex gloves or powder-free, lowprotein gloves.
- Stop using ozone generators.
- Move gloves and sharps containers closer to the practitioner during procedures.

What DIAOM Employees Can Do

- Report all blood exposures.
- As soon as possible after a blood exposure, see a physician who is familiar with bloodborne pathogen exposures.
- When using gloves, wear non-latex gloves whenever possible.
- Get the Hepatitis B vaccination.



What To Do For More Information: We encourage you to read the full report. If you would like a copy, either ask your health and safety representative to make you a copy or call 1-513-841-4252 and ask for HETA Report # 2000-0341-2839



Health Hazard Evaluation Report 2000-0341-2839 Dallas Institute of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine Dallas, Texas April 2001

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SUMMARY

In June 2000, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) received a request from management personnel at the Dallas Institute of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (DIAOM) to evaluate the potential for occupational exposures to bloodborne pathogens (BBPs; e.g., the human immunodeficiency virus [HIV], Hepatitis B virus [HBV] and Hepatitis C virus [HCV]) from procedures performed at DIAOM. In response to this request, NIOSH investigators conducted a site visit in October 2000. During this visit, we met with management and employee representatives to discuss clinic policies and procedures; performed a visual inspection of the clinic procedure rooms and offices; and observed acupuncture, moxibustion, and cupping procedures.

Although there have been reports of acupuncture procedures resulting in patients becoming infected with HIV, HBV, and HCV, these incidents were, in most cases, related to exposure to improperly sterilized reusable needles. With the current standard practice of using single-use, sterile acupuncture needles, this risk is greatly decreased. However, there is still a potential risk to the acupuncture practitioner for BBP exposures from needles freshly removed from a patient's skin. Furthermore, the cupping procedure used at DIAOM extracts several milliliters of blood and the cupping jars, gauze, and gloves used by the practitioner can be contaminated with blood from this procedure, posing another potential risk for infection with BBPs. In addition, we noted that sharps containers and gloves were located beyond easy reach of the practitioner during treatments and an ozone generator was occasionally used in the clinic for odor control. We offer several recommendations for decreasing the risk of occupational exposures to the employees at DIAOM.

NIOSH investigators found that acupuncture and cupping procedures can expose employees to BBPs. All exposures to blood should be evaluated by a physician. Ozone generators and latex gloves used at the DIAOM have the potential to cause illness in susceptible employees. Exposure to ozone and latex should be minimized.

Keywords: SIC 8049 (Offices and Clinics of Health care Practitioners, Not Elsewhere Classified), acupuncture, bloodborne pathogens, BBP, Human Immunodeficiency Virus, HIV, Hepatitis B virus, HBV, Hepatitis C virus, HCV, cupping, moxa.

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INTRODUCTION

In June 2000, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) received a request from management personnel at the Dallas Institute of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (DIAOM) to evaluate the potential for occupational exposures to bloodborne pathogens (BBPs; e.g., the human immunodeficiency virus [HIV], Hepatitis B virus [HBV] and Hepatitis C virus [HCV]) from acupuncture and other procedures. In response to this request, NIOSH investigators conducted a site visit in October 2000.

BACKGROUND

Acupuncture

The Chinese tradition of acupuncture dates back at least 2000 years.¹ This practice gained attention in the United States (US) in 1972 when a New York Times reporter wrote about having received acupuncture while traveling with President Nixon in China.² In 1975, the first US acupuncture school (The New England School of Acupuncture) was opened in Watertown, Massachusetts. In 1982, the profession founded the Accreditation Commission for Colleges of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ACAOM) which, in 1990, became recognized by the US Department of Education as an agency for accreditation at the master's degree level.³ In 1997, the National Institutes of Health issued a consensus statement declaring acupuncture to be an effective treatment for certain medical conditions.⁴ There are roughly 10,500 licensed acupuncturists in the US providing about 9-12 million patient visits annually. Most acupuncture practitioners are required to take board exams offered by the National Commission for the Certification of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM) to become certified practitioners.⁵ Local acupuncture regulatory agencies may offer an additional certification process in certain states.

Acupuncture involves the insertion of very fine needles into the skin at specific points.⁶ Other

procedures often used in conjunction with acupuncture include *moxibustion*, which involves the burning of moxa (Latin name: Artemesia vulgaris; also called "mugwart" and "wild chrysanthemum"),⁷ and *cupping*, in which a lancet is used to puncture the skin, after which a small glass jar is heated and placed over the punctured area, creating a vacuum that draws out approximately three to five milliliters (mL) of blood.⁸ Transfer of viral infections, including HIV, HBV, and HCV, may occur between patients or from patients to practitioners if needles are not properly sterilized between uses.^{9,10,11,12,13,14} However, sterile, single-use needles are almost universally used in the US today and are regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as approved medical devices ¹⁵ The needles are surrounded by a protective plastic sheath, or guide tube, that prevents the needle from being inserted too deeply into the skin. This sheath also helps prevent inadvertent needlesticks to the practitioner. Many herbal products are used by acupuncture practitioners to treat a variety of patient concerns. These are classified by the FDA as dietary supplements and as such are not subject to the strict regulations required for compounds classified as drugs.¹⁶

Dallas Institute of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine

Practitioners at the DIAOM have been offering acupuncture and other Oriental medicine procedures since 1996. They maintain a staff of approximately 14 faculty and 60 students who provide care to approximately 25 clients per week. All students must complete a clean needle technique course prior to beginning their training at the DIAOM. This course is sponsored by the Council of Colleges of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (CCAOM),¹⁷ and its content is based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding preventing transmission of BBPs.¹⁸ Neither students nor faculty are required to receive a medical exam or any vaccinations to work at the DIAOM. If they sustain a needlestick or other sharp object injury, they are sent to a physician for evaluation.

Solid-bore, individually packaged, 28-38 gauge single-use needles are utilized for acupuncture procedures. Needles, gauze, and cotton that have been contaminated with blood or other body fluids are disposed of into sharps containers located in each treatment room. Tweezers, forceps, and other reusable devices are soaked in a bleach solution between uses. Latex and nonlatex gloves are available for all practitioners, and their use is encouraged but not mandatory. The gloves are stored in a supply room outside of the treatment rooms. All surfaces in the treatment rooms are cleaned with a 3% hydrogen peroxide solution between patient treatments.

The DIAOM maintains a collection of over 300 Oriental herbs and pills in a room within their office facility (Appendix A). These products are imported from China and, because they are classified as "dietary supplements" (not as "drugs"), they are not subject to any routine regulatory oversight in the US.¹⁶ Specific herbs and/or pills are selected for treatment of a client's illness and then may be burned, ground with a mortar and pestle, or used in their original form. An ozone (O₃) generator is occasionally used for the purpose of controlling odors.

METHODS

During the site visit, NIOSH investigators met with management and employee representatives to discuss clinic policies and procedures, performed a visual inspection of the clinic procedure rooms and offices, and observed acupuncture, moxibustion, and cupping procedures utilized at the clinic.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Bloodborne Pathogens

In the health care setting, BBP transmission can occur when health care workers (HCWs) are exposed to the blood or body fluids of infected patients.¹⁹ Occupational exposures that may result in HIV, HBV, or HCV transmission include needlestick and other sharps injuries; direct inoculation of a virus into scratches, lesions, abrasions, or burns on the skin (percutaneous); and inoculation of virus onto the mucosal (mucous membrane) surfaces of the eyes, nose or mouth through splashes. HIV, HBV, and HCV do not spontaneously penetrate intact skin, and airborne transmission of these viruses does not occur.

In 1987, CDC developed universal precautions to help protect HCWs and patients from infection with BBPs in the health care setting.²⁰ These recommendations stress that blood is the most important source of HIV, HBV, and other BBPs and that infection control efforts should focus on the prevention of exposures to blood and the use of available vaccines. In 1991, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued the BBP Standard.²¹ It requires that (a) HBV vaccine be made available to HCWs who are at risk of occupational HBV exposure, (b) written exposure control plans be developed, (c) engineering and work practice exposure controls be implemented, and (d) HCWs receive annual training in BBP exposure prevention. In 1995, CDC introduced the concept of standard precautions emphasizing that blood and body fluids of *all* patients should be considered potentially infectious.^{20,22,23} The core elements of standard precautions comprise hand washing after patient contact, the use of barrier precautions (e.g., gloves, gowns, goggles, and face shields) to prevent mucocutaneous contact, minimal manual manipulation of sharp instruments and devices, and disposal of these items in puncture-resistant containers.

Needlesticks and Sharps Injuries

On November 6, 2000, the Needlestick Safety and Prevention Act (NSPA) became public law.²⁴ This Act mandates specific revisions to OSHA's

BBP Standard²¹ in accordance with specific language included in the NSPA. These revisions include a requirement that in workplaces where there is a risk for percutaneous exposures to blood or other body fluids, a sharps injury log be kept in addition to the OSHA Log and Summary of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (Form 200). This sharps injury log must include detailed information on the injury, including the type and brand of device involved in the incident, the department or work area where the exposure incident occurred, and an explanation of how the incident occurred.

Hepatitis B

Persons infected with HBV are at risk for chronic liver disease (e.g., chronic active Hepatitis, cirrhosis, and primary hepatocellular carcinoma) and can potentially infect others. The probability of HBV transmission after an occupational exposure is dependent upon the concentration of the virus in the implicated body fluid, the volume of infective material transferred, and the route of inoculation (e.g., percutaneous or mucosal). One of the most common modes of HBV transmission in the health care setting is an unintentional injury from a needle contaminated with blood from a patient who is Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) positive.²⁵ The risk of transmission after a needlestick exposure, if the exposed person is not immune, is about 30% if the source patient is positive for Hepatitis B e antigen (HBeAg).^{26,27}

The incidence of HBV infection among HCWs has decreased since the early 1980s.²⁸ The decline is attributed to the implementation of standard precautions in health care settings, including the increasing use of barrier precautions and personal protective devices (gloves, goggles, etc.) and increasing levels of Hepatitis B vaccination coverage among HCWs.^{29,30,31} The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the Hospital Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC) recommend that workers potentially exposed to blood or blood-contaminated body fluids receive vaccination with the HBV vaccine, which provides pre- and post-exposure protection against HBV infection.^{32,33} Three intramuscular

doses induce a protective antibody response in >90% of healthy recipients for at least 12 years, and routine booster doses of Hepatitis B vaccine are not considered necessary.^{34,35,36} One to two months after completion of the three-dose series, post-vaccination testing should be done for all HCWs who are at risk for BBP exposures. Persons who do not show the presence of antibodies to HBV after the primary vaccine series should complete a second three-dose vaccine series or be evaluated to determine if they are HBsAg positive. Re-vaccinated persons should be retested at the completion of the second vaccine series. Non-responders who are HBsAg negative should be considered susceptible to HBV infection and should be counseled regarding precautions to prevent HBV infection and the need to obtain Hepatitis B immune globulin (HBIG) prophylaxis for any known or probable exposure to HBsAg-positive blood.²⁰ For exposed persons who are not immune, either because they have not received the HBV vaccine series or because they are non-responders, multiple doses of HBIG have been shown to provide an estimated 75% protection from HBV infection following percutaneous exposure to HBsAg-positive blood when initiated within one week of exposure.^{37,38,39} These individuals should also receive the HBV vaccine series.⁴⁰

HBV is resistant to drying, simple detergents, and alcohol, and has been found to be stable on environmental surfaces for at least seven days.^{41,42,43,44,45,46} Thus, indirect inoculation can occur via inanimate objects (e.g., contaminated medical equipment or environmental surfaces). However, HBV has been shown to be inactivated by several intermediate-level disinfectants, including 0.1% glutaraldehyde and 500 parts per million (ppm) free chlorine from sodium hypochlorite (i.e., household bleach).^{47,48} Heating to 98°C for two minutes also inactivates HBV.⁴⁹

Hepatitis C

HCV was identified in 1988 as the primary cause of non-A, non-B Hepatitis, and as a major cause of acute and chronic Hepatitis worldwide. HCV typically circulates at lower titers in infected blood than HBV and is not transmitted efficiently through occupational exposures to blood.^{50,51} Hence, HCV is most likely to be transmitted only by *large* exposures to blood, such as through the transfusion of blood or blood products from infectious donors or sharing of contaminated needles among injection drug users.¹⁹ The actual risk of infectivity has not been well-defined for HCV. The average incidence of HCV infection after needlestick or sharps exposure from a known HCV-positive source patient ranges from 0 to 7%, with one study reporting that transmission occurred only from hollow-bore needles compared with other sharps.^{51,52,53,54,55} No transmission to HCWs has been documented from intact or non-intact skin exposures to blood.⁵¹ The risk for transmission after exposure to fluids or tissues other than blood has not been quantified, but is expected to be low.⁴⁰

There is currently no vaccine available for HCV, and post-exposure prophylaxis with immune globulin does not appear to be effective in preventing HCV infection.⁵⁶ Even in the absence of available pre- or post-exposure prophylaxis, individual worksites should establish policies and procedures for follow-up after percutaneous or mucosal exposure to anti-HCV positive blood to address individual worker's concerns about their risk and outcome.⁵⁷ The HCV status of the source and the exposed person should be determined and, if indicated, follow-up HCV testing should be performed to determine if infection develops in the exposed worker.⁵⁰

Data are limited on survival of HCV in the environment. Rapid degradation of HCV occurs when serum containing HCV is left at room temperature.⁵⁸ In contrast to HBV, the data suggest that environmental contamination with blood containing HCV does not pose a significant risk for transmission in the health care setting, with the possible exception of the hemodialysis setting where HCV transmission related to environmental contamination and poor infection control practices has been implicated.^{59,60,61,62,63,64}

Human Immunodeficiency Virus

Most occupational exposures to HIV do not result in infection. The risk of infection varies with the type of exposure and factors such as the amount of blood involved in the exposure, the amount of virus in the blood, and whether treatment was given after the exposure. Among HCWs, the average risk of HIV infection after a needlestick or cut exposure to HIV-infected blood from freshly contaminated sharps is 0.3% (about 1 in 300).65 Stated another way, 99.7% of needlestick/cut exposures do not result in infection. The risk of HIV infection after exposure of the eye, nose, or mouth to HIVinfected blood is estimated to be 0.09% (about 1 in 1000).⁶⁶ There have been no documented cases of HIV transmission due to an exposure involving a small amount of blood on intact skin. Although episodes of HIV transmission after non-intact skin exposure have been documented. the average risk for transmission by this route is estimated to be less than the risk for mucous membrane exposures.^{67,68} The risk for transmission after exposure to fluids or tissues other than HIV-infected blood also has not been quantified, but appears to be considerably lower than for blood exposures.69

After an occupational exposure to HIV, employees should be tested for HIV status, and if not positive, should be followed-up for up to six months. Post-exposure prophylaxis is an important element in the management of an occupational exposure to HIV.⁷⁰ The use of zidovudine (ZDV) and other antiviral drugs after certain occupational exposures may reduce the chance of HIV infection.⁷¹ A physician familiar with the risks of HIV infection and the side effects of the drugs should be consulted immediately after an exposure to determine whether post-exposure treatment is appropriate and, if so, the selection of the regimen to use. Prevention of occupational exposures, particularly percutaneous injuries, is the primary means of avoiding occupationally acquired HIV infection.

Studies have indicated that HIV is readily susceptible to a variety of disinfectants.⁷² The titer of HIV in blood is reduced by 90-99% within several hours after drying, and it further diminishes with time.^{20,73} There is no evidence for HIV transmission from environmental surfaces.

Sterilization and Disinfection

Standard sterilization and disinfection procedures recommended for patient care equipment are adequate to sterilize or disinfect items contaminated with blood or other body fluids from people infected with BBPs.²⁰ Because foreign material may interfere with the sterilization or disinfection procedure, devices must first be adequately cleaned.⁷⁴ All spills of blood and blood-contaminated body fluids should be promptly cleaned by a person wearing appropriate gloves and using an Environmental Protection Agency-approved disinfectant or a 1:10 to 1:100 solution of household bleach.²⁰ Visible material should first be removed with disposable towels or other means to prevent direct contact with blood. The area should then be decontaminated with an appropriate disinfectant.20

Latex

Natural latex is an intracellular milky fluid produced by the laticifer cells of the tropical rubber tree. Hevea brasiliensis. It is manually harvested and, through multiple processes, is converted into natural rubber latex (NRL). This, in turn, is used for the manufacture of commercial latex products, including latex gloves, balloons, and condoms. Over the last 20 years, reports of adverse reactions to NRL have increased, and latex allergy has been recognized as an occupational health hazard. Studies in HCWs have shown latex allergy prevalence rates of 2-16.9%.^{75,76,77} Several reasons may exist for the increase in reports of latex allergy and other adverse reactions to latex. The use of latex gloves has increased significantly since the introduction of universal precautions to prevent the transmission of HIV, HBV, and other infectious agents. To meet the increased demand for latex gloves, some manufacturers may produce more allergenic gloves because of changes in raw materials, processing, or manufacturing procedures. Also, physician and public awareness of latex allergy has increased. Routes of exposure to NRL include dermal, mucosal, percutaneous, and inhalation. NRL

sensitization is also associated with allergies to certain foods, including banana, avocado, potato, tomato, passion fruit, kiwi fruit, papaya, and chestnut.^{78,79} The prevention of adverse latex reactions depends on the identification of individuals who are allergic so that they can avoid exposure to NRL-containing products. If latex allergy is suspected, a physician familiar with latex allergy should be consulted.

RESULTS

During our observation of procedures at the DIAOM, we noted the following:

1. Sharps containers were generally located in a corner of the treatment rooms beyond easy reach of the practitioner while treatments were being performed. Approximately 30 pounds of sharps containers are disposed of as biohazardous waste on a monthly basis.

2. Three to five mL of blood were extracted during the cupping procedures. The cupping jars, gauze, and gloves used by the practitioner were contaminated with blood from this procedure. Contaminated cupping jars are placed on a tray covered with a reusable, absorbent liner. The potential for cross-contamination exists if this liner cannot be appropriately decontaminated. Decontamination procedures were not observed during the NIOSH site visit, but the DIAOM management told us that they planned to replace the liners with a disposable adsorbent product.

3. The protective sheath around the acupuncture needles provides some protection from unintentional needlesticks. However, there is still a potential for needlesticks after the needle is removed from the patient's skin.

4. The burning of moxa created a noticeable, strong odor and visible smoke in the treatment room. DIAOM personnel reported that a smokeless form of moxa is available.

5. Gloves are stored outside of treatment rooms; none were available in the individual treatment rooms.

6. An O_3 generator is occasionally used for the purpose of controlling odors. The O_3 generator was not used during the NIOSH site visit.

7. There is no exhaust ventilation or containment provided in the herbal storage room where the herbs and other products are prepared (i.e., crushed or mixed).

DISCUSSION

Although the practice of acupuncture has historically resulted in HIV, HBV, and HCV infections in patients, these incidents were, in most cases, related to the utilization of reusable needles that were not properly sterilized.⁹⁻¹⁴ With the incorporation of single-use, sterile acupuncture needles, this risk is greatly decreased. However, there is still a potential risk to the acupuncture practitioner of exposures from needles freshly removed from a patient's skin. In addition, the cupping procedure used at DIAOM produces several milliliters of blood, and exposure to this blood is a potential risk for infection with any of the BBPs. O_3 generators (electronic devices that emit O_3 by design) are commercially available and widely promoted as air cleaning devices that eliminate chemical pollutants, remove indoor allergens, kill molds and bacteria, and "freshen air" in the indoor environment. However, no carefully conducted studies (published in the peer-reviewed literature) have substantiated that O₃ removes these pollutants innocuously.^{80,81} In fact, studies have found that in addition to being a primary pulmonary irritant, O_3 can react with other chemicals in the indoor environment to create insidious and more irritating chemical compounds.^{82,83}

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Immediately following an exposure to blood or body fluids, or to objects potentially contaminated with blood or body fluids, the following should occur: areas of skin exposed to needlesticks and cuts should be washed with soap and water; after splashes to the nose, mouth, or skin, the area should be flushed with water; and after splashes to the eyes, the eyes should be irrigated with clean water, saline, or sterile irrigants.²³

2. All workplace needlesticks, cuts from other sharp objects, or splashes onto the skin, eyes, nose, or mouth should be immediately reported and evaluated by a physician familiar with occupational BBP exposures. A program should be put into place that emphasizes and ensures that this reporting and medical follow-up is taking place.^{21, 84}

3. In accordance with CDC recommendations and OSHA requirements for HCWs, all employees should be offered the HBV vaccine free of charge.^{32,85} One to two months after completion of the three-dose vaccination series, employees should be tested for antibody to Hepatitis B surface antigen (anti-HBs). Booster doses of Hepatitis B vaccine are not considered necessary, and periodic serologic testing to monitor antibody concentrations after completion of the vaccine series is not recommended.

4. Employers should provide education to employees regarding the prevention of HCV in the occupational setting, and such information should be routinely updated to ensure accuracy.⁵⁷ The DIAOM should establish policies and procedures for follow-up after percutaneous or mucosal exposure to anti-HCV positive blood to address individual worker's concerns about their risk and outcome.

5. A sharps injury log should be kept in accordance with the 2000 NSPA.²⁴

6. Employees should be provided with accurate and up-to-date information on the risk and prevention of infection from all bloodborne pathogens. After any sharp injury or splash to the eyes, nose, or mouth, DIAOM management should refer the exposed worker to an occupational or infectious disease physician to discuss the need for post-exposure treatment and follow-up.⁴⁰

7. Consider placing the sharps containers on movable carts that can be placed near the practitioner during procedures to decrease the handling time of contaminated gauze, cotton, and acupuncture needles.

8. Because of the potential for employees to develop allergy to latex, the use of latex gloves should be limited to those situations where latex is considered necessary to prevent skin exposure to infectious agents. If latex gloves are chosen, use powder-free low-protein gloves. Consider making gloves available in treatment rooms so that practitioners will have easy access to them during procedures.

9. All spills of blood and blood-contaminated body fluids should be promptly cleaned by a person wearing appropriate gloves and using an Environmental Protection Agency-approved disinfectant or a 1:10 to 1:100 solution of household bleach.^{20,40} Visible material should first be removed with disposable towels or other means to prevent direct contact with blood. The area should then be decontaminated with an appropriate disinfectant. Latex gloves do not provide adequate protection from disinfection agents, since the chemicals may cause deterioration of the glove material. Consideration should be given to using vinyl or nitrile rubber gloves instead of latex. Nitrile, for example, could safely be used with most disinfectants including ethyl alcohol, hydrogen peroxide, glutaraldehyde, and sodium hypochlorite (bleach).⁸⁶ Nitrile also offers adequate protection from bodily fluids.

10. The use of O_3 generators should be avoided. If an ozone generator is used, employees need to be informed of ozone exposures as part of the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard or Worker Right-to-Know regulations.⁸⁷ Source control, dilution ventilation, proper filtration, and prudent mechanical hygiene practices are far more effective alternatives to managing and alleviating indoor environmental pollutants than use of O_3 generators.

11. The use of source control ventilation should be considered when dust-producing (e.g., crushing) activities are performed. Additionally, since a smokeless version of moxa is available, consider its use where feasible.

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Appendix A – Herbs and Tea Pills at DIAOM

Raw Herbs

Ai Ye Ai Ye Tan Ba Dou Bai Bu Bai Dou Kou Bai Fu Zi Bai Guo Bai He Bai Hua She She Cao Bai Ji Bai Ji Li Bai Ji Tian Bai Jiang Cao Bai Jie Zi Bai Mao Gen Bai Oian Bai Shao Yao Bai Tou Weng Bai Xian Pi Bai Zhi Bai Zhu Bai Zi Ren Ban Lan Gen Ban Xia Bei Xie Bi Ba Bian Dou Bian Xu Bie Jia Bing Lang Bing Pian Bo He Bu Gu Zhi Cang Er Zi Cang Zhu Ce Bai Ye Chai Hu ChanTui Che Qian Cao Che Qian Zi Chen Pi Chen Xiang Chi Shao Chi Xiao Dou Chuan Bei Mu Chuan Bei Xie Chuan Lian Zi Chuan Niu Xie Chuan Shan Long Chuan Wu Chuan Wu Pian Chuan Xiong Ci Shi

Da Fu Pi Da Huang Da Ji Da Oing Ye Dai Zhe Shi Dan Shen Dan Zhu Ye Dang Gui Pian Dang Gui Wei Dang Shen Deng Xin Cao Di Fu Zi Di Gu Pi Di Huang (sheng) Di Long Di Yu Dong Gua Ren Du Huo Du Zhong Du Zhong Ye E Jiao E Zhu Fan Xie Ye Fang Feng Fang Ji Fa Shou Fu Hai Shi Fu Ling Fu Ling (curled) Fu Ling Pi Fu Shen Fu Xiao Mai Gan Cao Shen Gan Cao Zhi Gan Jiang Gan Sui Gao Ben Gao Liang Jiang Ge Gen Gou Ji Gou Qi Zi Gou Teng Gu Sui Bu Gu Ya Gua Lou Gua Lou Pi Gua Lou Ren Gui Ban Gui Zhi Hai Feng Teng Hai Piao Xiao Hai Tong Pi

Fu Pen Zi

Hai Zao Han Fang Ji Han Lian Cao He Huan Pi He Shou Wu He Ye He Zi Hei Zhi Ma Hong Hua Hong Ling Zhi Hou Po Hu Gu Hu Huang Lian Hu Jiao Hu Zhang Hua Shi Hua Zhi Shen Huai Hua Mi Huang Bai Huang Jing Huang Lian Huang Qi Huang Qin Huo Ma Ren Huo Xiang Jing Jie Ji Ğuan Hua Ji Nei Jin Ji Xue Teng Jiang Can Jiang Huang Jie Geng Jin Oian Cao Jin Yin Hua Jing Ying Zi Ju Hua Jue Ming Zi Ku Lian Gen Pi Ku Shen Kuan Dong Hua Kun Bu Lai Fu Zi Lian Oiao Lian Zi Lian Zi Xin Liu Huang Liu Ji Nu Long Dan Cao Long Gu Long Yan Rou Lu Gen Lu Hui Lu Lu Tong

Lu Rang Luo Bu Ma Luo Shi Teng Ma Chi Xian Ma Huang Ma Huang Gen Mai Meng Dong Mai Ya Man Jing Zi Mang Xiao Mao Dong Qing Ming Fan Ma Yao Mu Dan Pi Mu Gua Mu Li Mu Li Fen Mu Tong Mu Xiang Nan Sha Shen Niu Bang Zi Niu Xi Nu Zhen Zi Ou Jie Ou Jie Tan Pang Da Hai Pj Pa Ye Pu Gong Ying Pu Huang Qian Cao Gen Qian Nian Jian Òian Niu Zi Qian Shi Qiang Huo Oin Jiao Qing Hao **Oing** Pi Qing Tian Kui Qing Xian Zi Qu Mai Quan Xie Ren Dong Teng Ren Shen Ren Shen (Korean) Ren Shen Xu Rou Dou Ko Rou Gui Rou Kong Rong Ru Xiang San Leng San Qi Sang Bai Pi

Qian Hu

Appendix A (continued) – Herbs and Tea Pills at DIAOM

Raw Herbs (continued)

Sang Ji Sheng Sang Shen Sang Ye Sang Zhi Sha Ren Sha Yuan Zi Shan Yao Shan Zha Shan Zhu Yu Shang Lu She Gan She Tui Shen Qin Cao Shen Qu Sheng Chuang Zi Sheng Ma Shi Chang Pu Shi Gao Shi Gao (powder) Shi Hu Shi Jian Chuang Shi Jue Ming Shi Wei Shu Di Huang Shu Fu Zi Shui Niu Jiao Shui Zhi Si Gua Luo Song Jie Song Xian Suan Zao Ren Suo Yang Tai Zi Shen Tao Ren Tian Hua Fen Tian Ma Tian Nan Xing Tian Oi Ting Li Zi

Tong Cao Tu Fu Ling Tu Si Zi Wang Bu Liu Xiang Wei Ling Xian Wu Gong Wu Jia Pi Wu Ling Zhi Wu Mei Wu Wei Zi Wu Yao Wu Zhu Yu Xi Xin Xi Yang Shen Xia Ku Cao Xian He Cao Xian Mao Xiang Fu Xiao Hui Xiang Xie Bai Xin Yi Ha Xing Ren Xu Duan Xuan Fu Hua Xuan Shen Ya Dan Zi Yan Hu Suo Ye Jiao Teng Ye Ju Hua Yi Mu Cao Yi Yi Ren Yi Zhi Ren Yin Chen Hao Ying Yang Huo Yuan Zhi Yu Jin Yu Li Ren Yu Xing Cao Yu Zhu Yuan Hua

Ze Lan Ze Xie Zhang Nao Zhe Bei Mu Zhen Zu Zhi Ke Zhi Mu Zhi Nan Xing Zhi Shi Zhi Zi Zhu Ru Zi Cao Zi Cao Wu Zi Hua Di Ding Zi Ran Tong Zi Su Ye Zi Su Zi Zi Wan Zi Zhu Zhu Ling

Appendix A (continued) – Herbs and Tea Pills at DIAOM

Golden Flower Herbs

ASTRAGALUS & LIGUSTRUM FORMULA ASTRAGALUS FORMULA ASTRAGALUS FORMULA SYRUP BLOOD PALARE FORMULA BUPLEURUM & TANG KUEI FORMULA BUPLEURUM D FORMULA CHASE WING, PENETRATE BONE FORMULA CINNAMMON & PORIA FORMULA CINNAMMON D FORMULA **CLEMATIS & STEPHANIA FORMULA** COPTIS RELIEVE TOXICITY FORMULA CORYDALIS FORMULA DUHUO & LORANTHUS FORMULA EASE DIGESTION FORMULA EIGHT IMMORTALS FORMULA ESSENTIAL YANG FORMULA FREE & EASY WANDERER PLUS FORMULA FRITILLARAIA & PINELLIA SYRUP GASTRODIA & UNCARIA FORMULA GENERAL TONIC FORMULA GENTIANA DRAIN FIRE FORMULA GINKGO FORMULA GINSENG & ASTRAGALUS FORMULA GINSENG NOURISHING FORMULA HE SHOU WU TABLETS HEAVENLY EMPEROR'S FORMULA INTESTINAL FUNGUS FORMULA JADE SCREEN & XANTHIUM FORMULA JING OI FORMULA JUAN BI FORMULA

LILY PRESERVE METAL FORMULA MING MU FORMULA MINOR BLUEGREEN DRAGON FORMULA PEARL CREAM MINOR BUPLEURUM FORMULA NOURISH ESSENCE FORMULA PEACEFUL SPIRIT FORMULA PERSICA AND CISTANCHES FORMULA PINELLIA & MAGNOLIA BARK FORMULA PORIA & FENNEL FORMULA PORIA 15 FORMULA PUERARIA FORMULA PULSATILLA INTESTINAL FORMULA **REHMANNIA & SCROPHULARIA** REHMANNIA COOL BLOOD FORMULA SALVIA TEN FORMULA SAN OI TABLETS SEA OF QI FORMULA SIBERIAN GINSENG TABLETS SIX GENTLEMEN FORMULA TANG KUEI & PEONY FORMULA TANG KUEI & SALVIA FORMULA TIEH TA FORMULA TRUE YIN FORMULA TWO IMMORTALS FORMULA VIOLA CLEAR FIRE FORMULA WOMEN'S PRECIOUS FORMULA WU HUA FORMULA YIN CHIAO FORMULA

Other Herbs

Dragon Diet BHI Heel Ligaplex II Traumeel Ointment Black Walnut Vitamin A Huo Xiang Zheng Qi Wan Wood Lock Oriented Oil Colpac (small) Colpac (large)

Appendix A (continued) – Herbs and Tea Pills at DIAOM

Patent Herbs

Alrodeer Pill Armadillo Counter Poison Pill Bai Zi Yang Xin Wan Banlangen Chongji Bao Ji Wan Baohe Wan BHI Cold BHI Cough BHI Spasm-Pain Bu Zhong Yi Qi Wan Cataract Vision-Improving Pills Ching Fei Yi Huo Pien Ching.Wan Hung Chuan Xiong Cha Tiao Wan Chuang Yao Tonic Crocodile Bile Pill Da Bu Wan Da Bu Yin Wan Dang Gui Su Dermocure Ointment Diet Tea Dragon Diet Er Chen Wan Er long Zuo Ci Wan Essential Balm Imperial Panax Ginseng Extract Gripp-Heel Guci Pian Gui Pi Wan Huang Lien Huo Xiang Zhen Qi Wan Jiang Ya Pien Jie Geng Wan Jigucao Wan Jin Gui Di Huang Wan Jin Suo Gu Jing Wan Kai Yeung Pil Ligaplex II Liu Shen Shui Long Dan Xie Gan Wan Luobuma Chaing Yapien Ma Wei Di Huang Wan Ming Mu Di Huang Wan Ming Mu Shang Ching Pien Nu Ke Ba Zhen Wan Passwan Pearl Cream Piantoutong Wan Placenta Compound Restorative Pills Po Sum On Medicated Oil Pro Botanixx CR-21 0 (Jiang Zhi)

Rhematic Plaster Run Chang Wan Sai Mei An San Bow Soul San She Dan Chuan Bei Ye San She Tan Sang Chu Tablets Sciatica Pills Sea Horse Combination Shen Qi Da Bu Pills Shen Qi Wu Wei Zi Wan Shi Hu Ye Guang Wan Shilintong Shui De An Capsules Shu Gan Wan Superior Sore Throat Powder Spray Imperial Tang Kwei Gin Tian Ma Wan Tieh Ta Yao Gin Tiger Balm To Jing Wan Traumeel Wan Hua Shi Oil Watermelon Frost Wu Chi Paifeng Wan Wuling San Xiang Sha Yang Wei Wan Xiao Chai Hu Tang Wan Xiao Yao Wan Yudai Pills (100 pills) Yudai Pills (200 pills) Yunnan Pai Yao Yunnan Pai Yao (box) Zheng Gu Shui (large) Zheng Gu Shui (small) Zhi Bai Di Huang Wan

Tea Pills

Anmien Pen Bu Fei Teapills Calm in the Sea of Life Teapills Calm Spirit Teapills Calm Stomach Teapills Chuan Xin Lian Clean Air Teapills Clear Mountain Teapills Clear Wind Heat Teapills Curing Pill Eight Righteous Teapills **Emperors** Teapills Five Peel Teapills Four Gentlemen Teapills Gan Mao Ling Great Corydalis Teapills Great Pulse Teapills Great Yang Restoration Teapills Jade Screen Teapills Jade Spring Teapills Ledebouriella Sagely Unblocks Teapills Lidan Pian Llycium Rehmannia Teapills Lycu-Chrysanthemum Teapills Magnolia Flower Margari te Acne Pills Nei Xiao luo Li Teapills Panta Teapills Pe Min Kan Wan Pinellia Root Teapills Salvia Teapills Six Flavor Teapills Solitary Hermit Teapills Soothe Liver Stasis in the Mansion of Blood Teapills Suan Zao Ren Teng The Snake & Dragon Teapills You Gui Teapills Zuo Gui Teapills

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