

# UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS AGAINST BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

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Employees working in a school system are potentially exposed to human blood and/or other body fluids containing human blood that may be contaminated with potentially infectious materials.

Without the appropriate precautions, these potentially infectious materials may be transferred from one employee and/or student to another

# What “Gifts” We Receive–Presents from our students

- ▣ Bloody Nose
- ▣ Lost Tooth
- ▣ Bloody Lip
- ▣ Scraped Knee
- ▣ Biting
- ▣ Vomit
- ▣ Broken Glass in the Science Lab
- ▣ And Many Others

# Look at Your Hands—Do you have any areas of potential exposure?

- ▣ Broken Skin
- ▣ Cuts
- ▣ Hangnails
- ▣ Dry, chapped skin
- ▣ Do you use hand sanitizer? Currently the No. 1 cause of dry, chapped hands

If the answer to any of these is YES, then you are at risk for the following diseases!

# What Extra Gifts Can These Bring

- ▣ Hepatitis A Virus (HAV)
- ▣ Hepatitis B Virus (HBV)
- ▣ Hepatitis C Virus (HCV)
- ▣ Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)
- ▣ Herpes, syphilis, malaria, MRSA (methacillin resistant staph aureus – staph that is antibiotic resistant)

# Hepatitis A

- ▣ Not Bloodborne but body fluids (specifically fecal matter from an infected person)
- ▣ Usually transmitted through food prepared by an infected person
- ▣ Most children have no symptoms, although most adults are symptomatic for about 2 months
- ▣ Not chronic
- ▣ Common transmission in daycare centers
- ▣ 1% death rate (2% for those over 50 years of age)
- ▣ Vaccine is now available – Most of our students have gotten the vaccine. Have you?

# Hepatitis B

- ▣ Causes serious liver disease
- ▣ 1.25 million infected in the U.S.
- ▣ 10% become chronically infected and remain so over their lifetime
- ▣ 50% have NO symptoms
- ▣ 5,000 people per year die of this disease
- ▣ Greater risk than that of HIV
- ▣ Vaccine is available / No cure

# IMMUNIZATIONS

- ▣ Hep A – 2 injections, 6 months – required to begin school, not all students have had the full series yet
- ▣ Hep B – 3 injections over 6 months – required to start school



# How to Obtain Immunizations

- ▣ Occupational Health – 767-5179
- ▣ Preventative Medicine – 435-5071
- ▣ Military Dependents – Immunization Clinic  
open Monday through Friday from 8am until  
4pm
- ▣ Local Community Health Office
  - (small fee, usually \$20 for visit plus \$5 per  
immunization)

# Hepatitis C

- ▣ Causes serious liver disease (#1 reason for liver transplants)
- ▣ 3 million infected in the U.S.
- ▣ 85% become chronically infected and remain so over their lifetime
- ▣ 75% have no symptoms for up to 30 years
- ▣ 10,000 people per year die of this disease
- ▣ Greater risk than that of HIV
- ▣ NO vaccine is available
- ▣ Beginning to find a cure through AIDs research / antiviral therapy (very expensive, lots of side effects)

**Hepatitis survives  
7 days on a dry  
surface.**

**HIV survives a few  
minutes.**

**Clorox kills both!**

# Human Immunodeficiency Virus

- ▣ Breaks down the immune system
- ▣ May develop into AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome)
- ▣ 900,000 infected in the U.S.
- ▣ Number of deaths decreasing related to sophisticated treatments
- ▣ NO vaccine is available / NO cure

# What Can We Do?

Follow Universal Precautions:

A system of infectious disease control that assumes that every direct contact with body fluids is infectious and requires every employee exposed to be protected as though such body fluids were infected with blood-borne diseases

# Specific Steps

- ▣ Wash hands frequently to reduce the risk of exposure
- ▣ Wear gloves if there is even a *possibility* you might have contact with another person's body fluids
- ▣ After the removal of gloves or after exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials, *wash hands with antibacterial soap.*
- ▣ Wear gloves once and discard.

Do not use gels too frequently...they are drying and can crack skin

Don't wash hands with clorox or other antimicrobials

Assume all blood or body fluids are  
contaminated and potentially harmful  
to your health!



# Potential Sources for Occupational Exposure in Schools

- ▣ Blood
- ▣ Vomit
- ▣ Urine
- ▣ Feces (bowel movement)
- ▣ Saliva (spit, secretions from the mouth or lungs)
- ▣ Needles, syringes, or other Sharp instruments

Soiled feminine hygiene products / sanitary napkins, soiled facial tissues, bandages, etc., are not considered biohazard or medical waste but you **SHOULD** wear gloves and wash hands with antibacterial soap after handling these.

# Hand Washing Procedures

## When:

- ▣ Before assisting with a medical procedure
- ▣ After physical contact with blood or body fluids
- ▣ After contact with soiled equipment
- ▣ After removing gloves

# Hand Washing Procedures

## How:

- ▣ Wet hands with running water
- ▣ Dispense cleanser on hands
- ▣ Wash vigorously for 15 seconds
- ▣ Rinse under running water
- ▣ Dry thoroughly

# Personal Protective Equipment

- ▣ Gloves – use Latex free gloves if you have a latex allergy
- ▣ Gowns
- ▣ Lab coats
- ▣ Mouthpieces
- ▣ Face shields
- ▣ Resuscitation Bags and Masks

# Occupational Exposure

If exposed:

- ▣ Flush area / wash hands immediately
- ▣ REPORT IMMEDIATELY
- ▣ Handled similar to Workman's Comp
- ▣ Immediate referral to medical personnel (ER or Preventative Med / Occupational Health)

# For Needle Exposure:

- ▣ 6% to 30% (1 in 6) chance of getting Hepatitis B
- ▣ 2% to 10% (1 in 20) chance of getting Hepatitis C
- ▣ 0.3% (1 in 300) chance of getting HIV

# Clean Up of Spills or Waste

- ▣ Wear protective gloves
- ▣ Mop up spill with paper towels or other absorbent material
- ▣ Clean using approved disinfectant such as 1:10 bleach solution
- ▣ Dispose of all contaminated materials in sealed, doubled plastic bags
- ▣ Sharps go in approved sharps container
- ▣ **Body Fluid Spill Kit** kept in the Nurse's Office



# Clean Up of Spills or Waste (con)

- ▣ DON'T pick up glass with hands
- ▣ Soak area in bleach x20 min
- ▣ Bleach solution must be less than 24 hours old
- ▣ Clean large spills by surrounding with bleach rather than pouring in and aerosolizing

QUESTIONS?—  
CALL THE SCHOOL  
NURSE

# Now What

- ▣ Fill out the following slide
- ▣ Print the slide (or get a blank one from the Nurse's Office)
- ▣ Place the completed slide in mailbox of the appropriate person (Secretary, Nurse)

# Certificate of Training

*This certificate from the  
Department of Defense Education Activity  
is awarded to*

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*on*

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*for successfully completing the  
2011-2012 Bloodborne Pathogen Training*