

Cache County School District

Bloodborne Pathogens Protocol for Exposure

Definition: Blood borne pathogens means pathogenic microorganisms that are present in human blood and can cause disease in humans.

Transmission: Blood borne pathogens are transmitted when contaminated blood or body fluids enter the body of another person. This can occur through a number of pathways, such as:

- An accidental puncture by a sharp object contaminated with the pathogen. "Sharps" include objects such as:
 - needles
 - scalpels
 - broken glass
 - razor blades
- Open cuts or skin abrasions coming in contact with contaminated blood or body fluids
- Sexual contact
- Indirect transmission (a person touches dried or caked on blood and then touches the eyes, mouth, nose or an open cut) (HBV only)

There are also many ways that these diseases are **not** transmitted. For instance blood borne pathogens are not transmitted by touching an infected person, through coughing or sneezing or by using the same equipment, materials, toilets, water fountains or showers as an infected person. It is important that people are educated as to which ways are viable means of transmission of these dangerous diseases, and which are not.

Measures taken to prevent transmission of blood borne pathogens will include:

Personal protective equipment – gloves or masks and **guidelines** for work practice controls and exposure plan. And - **universal precautions**.

1. Shared toys, or other items that come in contact with the saliva of students, should be disinfected before another student's use. Common household bleach may be used for this purpose in a solution of 1 part bleach to 10 parts water (1:10). This solution must be made new daily in a spray bottle.
2. Any spillage of urine, saliva, blood or other body fluids should be immediately clean up using bleach solution in the 1:10 ratio, or an EPA approved disinfectant cleaning product. Always wear gloves.
3. Items soiled with body fluids or blood should be double bagged (placed by gloved hands into plastic bag, tied down, and placed in another plastic bag, tied down) for disposal or to wait for laundering.

4. Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water, or appropriate hand cleaner, after exposure to body fluids, whether gloved or not. Proper hand washing includes vigorous use of soap and water or hand cleaner for about 30 seconds.
5. Linen soiled with body fluid should be handled with gloves, bagged in a non-leak bag at the location of use and transported to laundry. Laundry should be washed in hot water if possible, and dried in a hot dryer. If low temperature water must be used, bleachable clothing should be washed in water to which ½ cup chlorine bleach is added. If fabric is not color fast, add ½ cup non-chlorine bleach to the wash cycle.
6. Sharps – Broken glassware or discarded needles which may be contaminated shall not be picked up directly with the hands. It shall be cleaned up using mechanical means, such as a brush and dust pan, tongs, or forceps. Reusable sharps that are not contaminated with blood or other potentially infectious materials shall not be stored or processed in a manner that requires employees to reach by hand into the containers where these sharps have been placed.

Contaminated sharps shall be discarded immediately or as soon as possible in containers that are: closeable, puncture resistant, leak proof on sides and bottom, and labeled or color-coded.

The sharps container shall be located in the health room. When containers of contaminated sharps are moved from the area of use, the container shall be closed.

7. Housekeeping Practice – The employer shall assure that the work site is maintained in a clean and sanitary condition and shall determine and implement an appropriate cleaning schedule for rooms where body fluids are present.

If an exposure occurs, inform on site principal and school district office. Seek medical attention at Logan Regional Hospital work med.