

BLOODBORNE PATHOGEN SAFETY

Safety Training IV

Bloodborne pathogens are potentially infectious vectors (bacteria, mycoplasma, viruses, etc.) originating in human body fluids such as amniotic, cerebrospinal, pericardial, peritoneal, pleural and synovial fluids, and in the saliva, semen, vaginal secretions or in any other body fluid that is contaminated with blood, such as vomitus.

EXPOSURE EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP

All "Exposure Incidents" should be reported to your supervisor as quickly as possible. An "Exposure Incident" is an exposure to an eye, the tongue, lips, other mucous membrane, or any non-intact skin, or otherwise the penetration of the skin or mucous membrane by a blood-contaminated or other potentially infectious instrument or material, such as a needle, knife, scalpel, micro-slide, broken glassware or pipette.

EXPOSURE CONTROL

- I. Supervisors shall insure that individuals who could be exposed to bloodborne pathogens:
 1. Receive training on the hazards of bloodborne pathogens.
 2. Are provided engineering controls (i.e., hoods, etc.), when possible.
 3. Use safe work practices.
 4. Use indicated Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as gloves, particle face mask, labcoat and safety glasses.
- II. If the nature of the task, activity or job requires direct contact with human blood or other potentially infectious materials, PPE shall be available and worn. Use of PPE will not be used in the exposure determination process. If a procedure is performed without blood exposure, but exposure could occur in an accident or emergency, the PPE shall be available.
- III. Universal Precautions are intended to supplement rather than replace routine infection control recommendations, such as hand washing and use of gloves to prevent contamination of hands. Universal Precautions, in part, assume that all human blood, blood products and other potentially infectious materials are infected and present a hazard to anyone being exposed to the agents. Consequently, if contact with infectious agents is possible, the necessary PPE must either be worn or be immediately available.
- IV. To prevent injuries caused by needles, scalpels, and other sharps, workers should not recap, bend or attempt to cut needles from disposable syringes. They should be placed directly into the sharps container. Rigid sharps containers shall be colored red and labeled with the word "BIOHAZARD," or will have a biohazard label.
- V. All equipment and environmental surfaces shall be promptly and properly cleaned and disinfected after contact with human blood or other potentially infectious material. Risk Management & Safety (RM&S) can provide guidance in selecting proper cleaning and disinfectant agents for use at Cal State San Marcos. Gloves should be worn during cleaning and disinfecting procedures.
- VI. Specimens of human blood or other potentially infectious materials shall be placed in a closeable, leak proof, container with biohazard labeling prior to being stored or transported. If outside contamination of the primary container is likely, then a second leak proof container that is biohazard labeled shall be placed over the outside of the first container and closed.

NOTE: After sterilizing liquid or semi-liquid potentially infectious material, the material may be disposed of by pouring down a sanitary sewer.
- VII. Sharps containers are to be properly marked with the international biohazard symbol. Sharps, even after sterilization are considered to be a biomedical waste. Sharps will always be disposed of properly in the designated sharps container. Individuals should cease using a sharps container when the sharps container is "¾" full. Sharps should never be forced into a container. Individuals should never attempt to recap needles. Prior to disposal, sharps containers are to be sealed.

SPECIAL PRACTICES

- I. Laboratory doors shall be kept closed when work is performed on bloodborne pathogens. The area is to be posted with the biohazard sign. Access to the work area shall be limited to authorized persons. Only persons trained in biohazards may be authorized to enter work areas and animal rooms.
- II. **Inside the laboratory, all activities involving human blood, other potentially infectious material, and infected animals will be conducted inside a biological safety cabinet. No work with these potentially infectious materials shall be conducted on the open bench.**

NOTE: One exception is medical microscopy conducted in a medical environment.
- III. Vacuum lines shall be protected with liquid disinfectant traps and high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters that are checked annually when the biosafety hoods are certified.

I have read this Bloodborne Pathogens Safety Training handout, and my supervisor has trained me in recognizing hazards and protecting myself from exposure to them.

Name (print) _____ Date _____

Signature _____