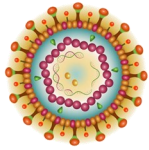


EPIDEMIOLOGY & SYMPTOMS

Bloodborne pathogens can spread from one person to another by exposure to blood or OPIM. The pathogens can enter the body in a variety of ways; open cuts, nicks, skin abrasions, dermatitis, acne and mucous membranes or you mouth, eyes or nose. There are no cures for the diseases caused by HIV, HBV or HCV; however, certain treatments may help improve the quality and length of life.



Contaminated surfaces are a major cause of the spread of hepatitis. HBV can survive on environmental surfaces dried and at room temperature for up to one week!

EXPOSURE CONTROL PLAN

The bloodborne pathogen standard requires employers to have a written Exposure Control Plan (ECP). The ECP provides protection for employees from bloodborne pathogens by providing written procedures to eliminate or minimize occupational exposures.

The employer must prepare an exposure determination that contains a list of job classifications in which all workers have occupational exposure and a list of job classifications in which some workers have occupational exposure, along with a list of the tasks and procedures performed by those workers that result in their exposure.

A copy of the ECP can be obtained from your department.



HEPATITIS B VACCINATION

The bloodborne pathogen standard requires employers to make the Hepatitis B vaccination series available to any employees who are at risk of an occupational exposure.



The Hepatitis B vaccine is given by injection. Three doses, given on three different dates, are needed for full protection.

Montgomery College offers the Hepatitis B vaccine to facilities employees free of charge. If you are interested in getting the vaccine contact Environmental Safety. If you choose not to get the vaccine we also have a declination form you can sign, if you change your mind at a later date on you can request the vaccine.

POST-EXPOSURE EVALUATIONS & FOLLOW-UP

If an exposure incident has occurred, the affected employee shall receive prompt medical evaluation and follow-up. Treatment will include:

- Documentation of the route(s) of exposure and the circumstances under which the incident occurred;
- Identification and documentation of the source individual (person whose blood or OPIM was the source of exposure, if available);
- Collection and testing of blood for HBV, HCV and HIV serological status;
- Post-exposure vaccine;
- Counseling; and
- Evaluation of reported illness.



BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS



Environmental Safety Office of Facilities & Public Safety

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Rockville, MD 20850
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Email: environmentalsafety@montgomerycollege.edu

KEY DEFINITIONS

Bloodborne Pathogens pathogenic microorganisms that are present in human blood and can cause disease in humans. Examples include , but are not limited to HBV and HIV.

Contaminated the presence or the reasonably anticipated presence of blood or other potentially infectious materials on an item or surface.

Decontamination the use of physical or chemical means to remove, inactivate, or destroy bloodborne pathogens on a surface or item to the point where they are no longer capable of transmitting infectious particles and the surface or item is rendered safe for handling, use, or disposal.

HBV Hepatitis B virus

HCV Hepatitis C virus

HIV human immunodeficiency virus

Other Potentially Infectious Materials

(OPIM) means the following human body fluids: vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluid, synovial fluid, pleural fluid (around lungs), pericardial fluid (around heart); peritoneal fluid (around the abdomen), amniotic fluid, any body fluid visibly contaminated with blood, all body fluids in situations where it is difficult or impossible to differentiate between body fluids, any unfixed tissue or organ.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) specialized clothing or equipment worn by an employee for protection against a hazard.

Universal Precaution treating all human blood and OPIM as if known to be infectious for bloodborne pathogens.



Bloodborne Pathogens

METHODS OF COMPLIANCE

In order to effectively eliminate or minimize exposure to bloodborne pathogens at the College, we focus on 5 areas on our ECP:

1. **Universal Precautions** MC practices universal precautions to aide in the protection of our employees from bloodborne pathogens. All facilities staff are trained in following universal precautions when dealing with bloodborne pathogens. Therefore, all human blood and body fluids are treated as if they are known to be infectious for HBV, HCV, and HIV.

2. **Engineering Controls**

These are the controls that isolate or remove the bloodborne pathogens hazards from the workplace. Examples include, but are not limited to, hand washing facilities, sharps containers, signs and labels.



3. **Work Practice Controls** These controls reduce the likelihood of exposure by altering the manner in which a task is performed.



Examples include, but are not limited to, hand washing, proper sharps disposal, cleaning and disinfecting contaminated areas, and prohibiting eating, drinking, smoking, applying cosmetics and handling contact lenses

in work areas where there is reasonable likelihood of occupational exposure.

4. **Personal Protective Equipment PPE** is worn when there is a reasonable potential contaminants such as bloodborne pathogens or OPIM to come in contact with the employee's face, hands, shoes, etc.



Examples of PPE include, disposable and utility gloves, safety glasses, laboratory coats, face shields and masks.

5. **Housekeeping Procedures** Areas that have been contaminated human blood or OPIM are cleaned and disinfected. Containers for regulated waste are located in each department where appropriate. These containers are orange-red in color or labeled with the appropriate biohazard warning label.



APPROPRIATE ACTIONS

- In the event of an occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens, immediately wash the affected area.
- Contact your supervisor and Public Safety to initiate an incident report
- Your supervisor will contact Risk Manager and Environmental Safety Manager
- Visit your nearest Concentra Walk in Clinic
- 803 Russell Ave Suite 1A & 2B, Gaithersburg, MD 20879