Tufts Medical Center

BloodBorne Pathogen Training
Infection Control - It’s Everybody’s Responsibility!

Here’s how you can protect yourself and your patients:
Bloodborne Pathogens Standard

- 29 CFR 1910.1030, Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens
- Published December 1991
- Effective March 1992

Scope
- ALL occupational exposure to blood and other potentially infectious material (OPIM)
Methods of Compliance

- Universal Precautions
- Engineering and Work Practice Controls
- Personal protective equipment
- Housekeeping
• **Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan**
  – Found on Tufts Intranet, policy #3001
  – Reviewed and approved annually by Infection Control Committee and Medical Board
  – Includes annual review of new sharps technologies

• **Standard Precautions Policy**
  – Found on Tufts Intranet, policy #4000
  – Reviewed and approved by Infection Control Committee and Medical Board
  – Includes PPE use, Hand Hygiene
BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

Major three: **Hepatitis B virus, Hepatitis C virus, and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)**

- Can produce chronic infections
- Transmissible in healthcare settings (primarily via sharps injuries)
- Risk of transmission is greatest for Hepatitis B (30%), Hepatitis C (2-3%), and HIV (0.3%)

**MODES OF TRANSMISSION**

**Direct Contact**
- Sharp injury or splash/splattering of blood or other potentially infectious material to mucous membrane (eyes, nose, mouth or non-intact skin)

**Indirect Contact**
- Indirectly from surfaces, tubes, or instruments (worker picks up virus on hands and self inoculates mucous membrane – risk of transmission from soiled environmental surfaces is greatest for hepatitis B)
PREVENTION IS PRIMARY!
PREVENTING TRANSMISSION

- **Use STANDARD PRECAUTIONS**: Handle all patients’ blood, tissue, and body fluids (OPIM) as potentially infectious.
- **Use Personal Protective Equipment** (gloves, gowns, face shields) to prevent blood, tissue, body fluid contact.
- **Use safety devices** (i.e. products designed to reduce risk of exposure e.g. plastic pipettes, blunt needles, or sharps with other safety features)
- **Receive Hepatitis B vaccination**.
  - Prevents Hepatitis B infection
    - *(probable life long immunity)*
  - Provided by Employee Health Service @ no cost to employees
  - Safe and Effective
STANDARD PRECAUTIONS

WHAT is PPE? Personal Protective Equipment

- Includes gloves, gowns, face shield (or mask with protective eyewear).
- Wear appropriate PPE for potential contact or soiling with blood or other body fluids.
- **ALWAYS** perform hand hygiene after removing PPE. Take care not to touch your face while removing PPE.
  - Soap and water if hands are visibly soiled and after using the restroom.
  - Alcohol based Hand rub recommended for other occasions of Hand Hygiene
- Gloves are never a substitute for hand hygiene. Always perform hand hygiene upon removal of gloves!
STANDARD PRECAUTIONS

REMOVE PPE IN THE FOLLOWING SEQUENCE:

- **Gloves** (the most contaminated item is discarded first)-clean hands
- **Face shield** or mask/protective eyewear
- **Gowns**. If visible soiling on scrubs or uniform, it must be changed.

........Gloves Removed?

**CLEAN YOUR HANDS**

Always perform hand hygiene after removing PPE!

Hand Hygiene is the single most effective measure to prevent infection.
STANDARD PRECAUTIONS

PROTECTION TECHNIQUES

DO

● Practice frequent Hand Hygiene.
● Use gowns, gloves, facial protection, fluid proof dressings over non-intact skin (e.g. dermatitis, cuts)
● Remove all PPE when leaving area
● Call Environmental Health for blood/body fluid spills

DO NOT

Recap Sharps- discard into sharps container. Call for replacement when container ¾ full

● Handle equipment or computers with contaminated gloves.
● Eat or drink in procedural areas or areas where specimens are handled, including most patient care areas.
Safety Devices

• All sharps at Tufts Medical Center must be equipped with a safety device to minimize chance of sharps injury
  – Waiver application must be filed with the Sharps Injury Task Force for the use of any device without a safety feature. Waiver form found on the Tufts Intranet, Administrative tab, Online Policies
  – Injuries due to sharps must be reported to Employee Health Service both for employee care as well as to identify potential issues with either devices or practice.
WHAT TO DO IF EXPOSURE OCCURS:

- **SKIN**: Immediately clean the exposed site with soap and water.
- **MUCUS MEMBRANE**: Flush liberally with tap water ASAP.

- There is no benefit to applying antiseptics or squeezing puncture sites.

- **REPORT** the exposure to Employee Health or to the Emergency Room (off hours or weekends) within 2 hours.
  
  The value of treatment or prophylaxis diminishes as the interval between exposure and treatment increases.

  ID expert is on call 24/7 to advise on blood and body fluid exposures.

- Complete an incident report. Submit to supervisor.
OFFICE Environments

- Blood or other potentially infectious materials are not present, surfaces are not contaminated
- Can become contaminated by personnel who do not practice cough etiquette or move from clinical environment to office area without performing hand hygiene

CLINICAL Environments

- Blood or other potentially infectious body materials present (or reasonably anticipated present) on an item or surface i.e. surfaces are contaminated
- Contaminated sharp objects present that can penetrate the skin e.g. dirty needles, scalpels, broken test tubes, etc.
The Environment (cont.)

- Eating, drinking, applying cosmetics/lip balm and handling contact lenses are prohibited in clinical areas (use designated lounge)

- All surfaces in clinical areas shall be disinfected daily and as needed after soiling with body fluids

- Housekeeping as needed for cleanliness in lounge/office areas

- Food and drink shall not be kept in refrigerators, freezers, shelves, cabinets or on countertops or bench tops where blood or other potentially infectious materials are present.

- Patient food and drink shall be stored separate from employee food and drink (Health Dept. regulation)
• Broken glassware or other sharps 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.

• Color coding (red) and/or biohazard warning labels are affixed to containers of regulated waste, refrigerators and freezers containing blood or other potentially infectious material. Do NOT handle these items without additional Bloodborne Pathogen training.
• BBP Exposure Control Plan

• “Eating, drinking, smoking, applying cosmetics and handling contact lenses are prohibited in work areas where there is risk of occupational exposure. Employees have been informed of this rule.”

• Policy #3001, Tufts Admin Policy Manual, Section III, Management of Environment of Care, Revised Feb 2011
If someone is not following the safety guidelines, please notify the supervisor of the Department or the Department Safety Officer immediately so that the unsafe practice may be stopped.

Submit an AMS or report situation on Quality and Patient Safety website anonymously.
INFECTION CONTROL IS EVERYBODY’S RESPONSIBILITY!