

Infection Control Standard Precautions

Standard Precautions

<u>CDC Recommendations: Application of Standard Precautions for All Patients</u>	
Component	Recommendations
Hand Hygiene	Before entering and when exiting the patient's room/cubicle/care areas. After touching blood, body fluids, secretions, excretions, contaminated items; immediately after removing gloves; between patient contacts
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	
Gloves	For touching blood, body fluids, secretions, excretions, contaminated items; for touching mucous membranes and non-intact skin
Mask, Eye Protection, Face Shield	During procedures and patient care activities likely to generate splashes or sprays of blood, body fluids, secretions
Gown	During procedures and patient care activities when contact of clothing/exposed skin with blood, body fluids, secretions, and excretions is anticipated
Patient Care Equipment	Clean equipment after use on patients; wear gloves if visibly contaminated; perform hand hygiene after touching equipment
Environmental Control	Routine cleaning and disinfection of environmental surfaces, especially frequently touched surfaces in patient care areas
Textiles and Laundry	Handle in a manner that prevents transfer of microorganisms to others and to the environment
Needles and Other Sharps	Do not recap, bend, break, or hand-manipulate used needles; if recapping is required, use a one-handed scoop technique only; use safety features when available; place used sharps in puncture-resistant container

Standard Precautions (Continued)

<u>CDC Recommendations: Application of Standard Precautions for All Patients</u>	
Component	Recommendations
Patient Resuscitation	Use mouthpiece, resuscitation bag, other ventilation devices to prevent contact with mouth and oral secretions
Patient Placement	Prioritize for single-patient room if patient is at increased risk of transmission, is likely to contaminate the environment, does not maintain appropriate hygiene, or is at increased risk of acquiring infection or developing adverse outcome following infection
Respiratory Hygiene/Cough Etiquette (source containment of infectious respiratory secretions in symptomatic patients, beginning at the initial point of encounter e.g., triage and reception areas in emergency departments and physician offices)	Instruct symptomatic persons to cover mouth/nose when sneezing/coughing; use tissues and dispose in no-touch receptacle; observe hand hygiene after soiling of hands with respiratory secretions; wear surgical mask if tolerated or maintain spatial separation, >3 feet if possible
Regulated Medical Waste	Only disposable items contaminated with blood and/or body fluids are placed in red biohazard waste bags. All other items are placed in clear trash bags



INFECTION CONTROL (CONTINUED)

OSHA Bloodborne Pathogen Standard

- **Purpose**
 - ◆ To reduce occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens such as the Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), Hepatitis C Virus (HVC), and the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)
- **Objectives**
 - ◆ To eliminate/minimize employee exposure to potentially infectious materials
 - ◆ To provide appropriate treatment/counseling should an exposure take place
 - ◆ To set forth and enforce an exposure control plan to comply with OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1910.1030.

Exposure Control Plan

- Found on the corporate Intranet in the Infection Control Manual at <http://intranet/pp/polproc.htm>
- Contains exposure determination
- Identifies all job classifications where occupational exposure may occur
- Identifies methods of compliance

1 Safe practices reduce occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens.

- a. Prevent needle stick and sharps-related injuries – ***Safer Sharps Program***. Injuries due to needles and other sharps have been associated with transmission of Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). See Standard Precautions for specific ways to reduce injuries to yourself and others.
- b. Keep gloves and ungloved hands that are contaminated from touching the mouth, nose, eyes or face.
- c. Stop and think about the job or patient care that you will be doing. Put on personal protective equipment (PPE) that will prevent exposure to pathogens before you get started.
- d. Shield all needles after use and place them immediately in the appropriate OSHA container.

INFECTION CONTROL (CONTINUED)

2 What are bloodborne pathogens?

- a. They are blood and/or body fluids containing visible blood, semen, vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluid, synovial fluid, pleural fluid, amniotic fluid, pericardial fluid, peritoneal fluid, breast milk, saliva or urine contaminated with blood.

3 What is an exposure?

- a. Contact of blood/body fluids with:
 - i Non-intact skin (e.g., eczema, dermatitis, open cuts, scratches, etc.)
 - ii Mucous membranes (e.g., mouth, nose, eyes, etc.)
 - iii Parenteral (e.g., into the body through a cut, needle stick or other sharp object)

4 What should I do if there is an exposure?

- a. Notify your immediate supervisor immediately
- b. If the exposure is in your mouth, nose or eyes – flush the area with water continuously for 5 minutes
- c. If the exposure is on/in skin – wash the area with soap and water for 5 minutes
- d. Report the exposure and receive counseling and treatment advice from either the Employee Health Nurse during regular business hours or from the Nursing Supervisor after hours
- e. Follow-up with the Employee Health staff

➤ Methods of Compliance

- ◆ Standard Precautions
- ◆ Engineering Controls - *Safer Sharps Program*
- ◆ Personal Protective Equipment
- ◆ Housekeeping Practices
- ◆ Regulated Medical Waste
- ◆ Laundry

INFECTION CONTROL (CONTINUED)

- **Hepatitis B Vaccination**
 - ◆ Offered free of charge to all employees including all who may be exposed to blood or body fluids
 - ◆ Available through the Employee Health Department

- **Hepatitis C**
 - ◆ While there is currently no known treatment post-exposure or vaccine, exposed employees will be followed through the Employee Health office.