

Spotlight On Safety

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Blood borne Pathogen Standard

The Cal OSHA Bloodborne Pathogen Standard provides guidance to eliminate or minimize occupational exposure of employees to human bloodborne pathogens (BBP). The BBP standard applies to all employees working in job classifications with a potential for occupational exposure to human blood or other potentially infectious materials (OPIM) and provides methods to protect oneself from exposure to OPIM.

BBP Standard

- Includes hepatitis C virus (HCV) with HIV and HBV as a specified bloodborne pathogen
- Requires the use of needleless systems or devices with “engineered sharps injury protection” (see [Needle and Syringe Safety](#))
- Text can be accessed at www.dir.ca.gov/oshsb/appbloodborne.html

OPIM Standard

- A potential occupational exposure is determined by identifying tasks that may result in eye, mucous membrane or percutaneous contact with human blood or other OPIMs
- Anyone working in an area where they may come in contact with any of the items listed below, is required to obtain annual BBP training

BBPs and OPIMs

- Human blood, human blood components and products made from human blood
- Semen, vaginal secretions and saliva in dental procedures
- All of the following human body fluids: cerebrospinal, synovial, pleural and amniotic
- Any body fluid visibly contaminated with blood (saliva, vomitus)
- All body fluids in situations where it is difficult or impossible to differentiate between body fluids (emergencies)
- Any unfixed human tissue
- Cell or tissue cultures containing HIV
- Culture medium or other solutions containing HIV, HBV or HCV
- Blood, organs or other tissues from experimental animals with HIV, HVB, or HCV

Visit www.ehs.ucr.edu for additional information or call EH&S at 827-5528 if you have any questions.