

# Bloodborne Pathogens (BBPs)

University of Louisiana at Monroe  
3rd Quarter Safety Meeting 2008

Any employee who is employed in an occupation that increases their risk of exposure to bloodborne pathogens is considered high risk.

## High Risk Employees at ULM

1. Athletic Trainers
2. Student Health Center Employees
3. Dental Hygiene Faculty
4. Kinesiology Faculty
5. HVAC/ Filter Workers
6. Clinical Lab Sciences
7. Health Science
8. Communicative Disorders
9. Custodial Services
10. Family Matters
11. Maintenance
12. Nursing Faculty
13. Rad Tech Faculty
14. Police Department
15. Plumbers

High Risk Employees must be trained annually and must be offered Hepatitis B vaccine free of charge. If the vaccine is declined, the employee must sign a declination statement.

## RULES & REGULATIONS

1. OSHA Standard—29 CFR 1910.1030 \* OSHA website link available on safety webpage
2. ORM requires the development of a BBP plan.
3. ULM BBP plan is updated and available to all employees in the online Safety Manual contained on the ULM safety website.
4. GOAL of the program is to reduce the accidents involving BBPs.

## BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

Are microorganisms (viruses or bacteria) that are carried in the blood and cause disease in humans.

## EXAMPLES

- Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) = AIDS
- Hepatitis—many types
- Malaria
- Syphilis
- Many Others

### HIV

- Transmitted by blood and other body fluids. Most commonly transmitted through: unprotected sex, drug users (needles), and blood (transfusions, etc.)
- Attacks the immune system, eventually leads to AIDS which is fatal. There is no vaccine and no known cure. HIV can be dormant for many years.
- The virus is somewhat fragile and will not live long outside of the human body.

### Hepatitis

- There are many types of Hepatitis: A,B,C, D, and E.
- Transmitted through blood and other bodily fluids.
- The highest risk when working around bloodborne pathogens is Hepatitis B.
- Hepatitis infects the liver causing swelling and in many cases leads to cirrhosis.
- Can survive for six months in proper environment, can survive for 1 week in dried blood.
- Vaccine is available for Hepatitis B.

Are  
**BLOODBORNE  
PATHOGENS**  
only in blood?

BBPs can be transmitted through contact with infected human blood and “other potentially infectious material (OPIM)” such as:

- ✓ Any body fluid that is visibly contaminated with blood.
- ✓ Semen/vaginal secretions
- ✓ Cerebrospinal fluid
- ✓ Synovial fluid
- ✓ Pleural fluid
- ✓ Peritoneal fluid
- ✓ Amniotic fluid
- ✓ Saliva

### ENTRY ROUTES

1. Cuts, open sores
2. Abrasions
3. Acne
4. Sunburn
5. Mucous Membranes (eyes, nose, mouth)
6. Accidental puncture from contaminated needles & other sharps

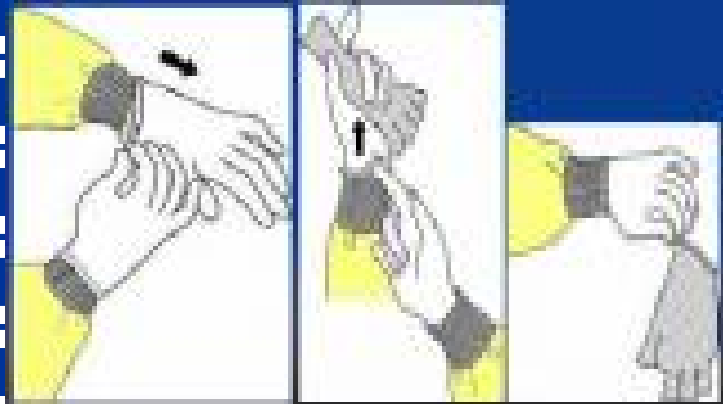


### UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS

Are precautions taken when working with blood or other body fluids. The precautions involve protection yourself from these materials entering your body. Specifically, they involve good judgment & personal protective equipment (PPE).

### GLOVES

- ◆ Should always be worn when working around BBPs.
- ◆ Be careful to wash hands before putting gloves on.
- ◆ Carefully examine gloves to ensure the gloves do not have any holes or tears.
- ◆ Once work is completed, remove the gloves without using your bare hands.



### PROTECTIONS/PRECAUTIONS:

- \* Use PPE such as gloves, face shields, masks (used during CPR, etc.)
- \* Handwashing EVERY time after...



1. Using the restroom
2. Before, after, during working with BBPs
3. Before eating or preparing food

- \* Do not eat, drink, smoke, apply cosmetics or handle contact lenses when working with or around BBPs.
- \* Use proper sharps containers & biological waste storage.
- \* Needles, PPE, and other equipment designed for single use should never be reused and should be properly disposed of in an approved container.
- \* Equipment & PPE that will be reused should be completely disinfected after each use.

**IF IT'S WET AND ISN'T  
YOURS, DON'T TOUCH IT  
WITH YOUR BARE HANDS!**

# DECONTAMINATION



**Question:** When should I decontaminate?

- ◆ At the end of a work shift
- ◆ After any spill of blood or other potentially infectious material (OPIM)  
\*(If you are unsure, assume material is contaminated.)
- ◆ After any work procedures that result in BBP contamination.

**Question:** How do I decontaminate an area?

Use a solution of water and bleach (10:1) ratio. 9 parts water to 1 part bleach  
OR use an EPA registered disinfectant. Rags or other material used for cleaning  
should be treated as BBP contaminated biological waste and should be disposed  
of accordingly.



## EXPOSURE? What to do?

- **Immediately clean & wash the area with antibacterial soap**
- **Report the exposure to your supervisor**
- **Follow the procedures in ULM BBP exposure control plan**
- **Document the exposure incident (who, what, where, when, why & how)**
- **Identify the source individual of the exposure— obtain consent from the source, test source's blood ASAP**
- **Make sure that you are tested for BBPs (at a minimum test for HIV & Hepatitis B)**
- **Get medical counseling and a vaccine**



## GOT QUESTIONS?

Please direct any questions or concerns to the University's Environmental Health & Safety Officer.

Lindsay McNair  
342-5177  
mcnair@ulm.edu

## Want more information?

- Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA)  
<http://www.osha.gov>
- ULM Safety Website  
<http://www.ulm.edu/safety>
- Centers for Disease Control  
<http://www.cdc.gov>
- La. Dept. of Health & Hospitals  
<http://www.dhh.state.la.us>