



Bloodborne Pathogens

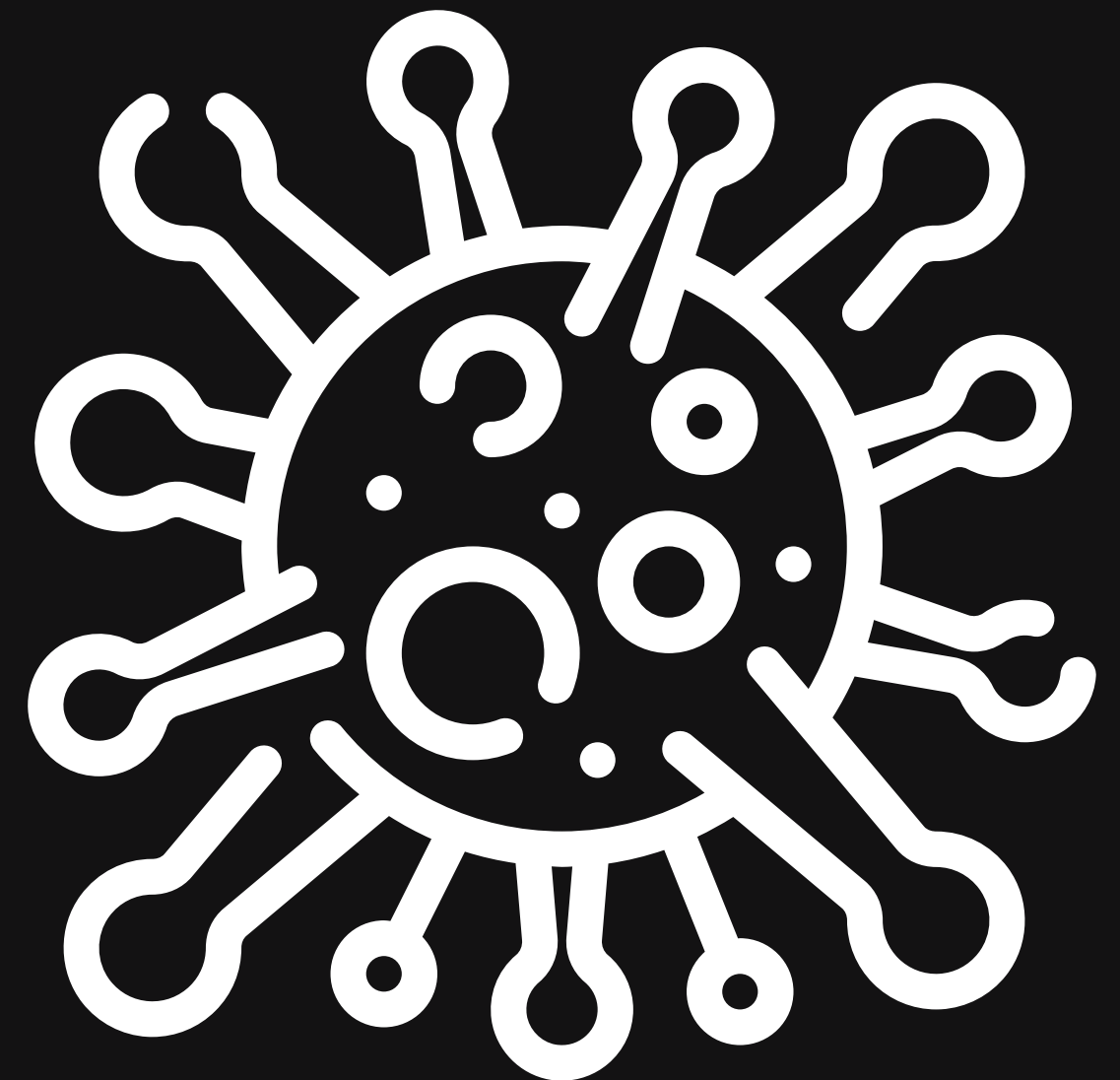
Session Objectives

You will be able to:

- Understand OSHA regulations to help workers avoid serious health dangers
- Identify hazards
- Know how to protect against hazards
- Understand safety procedures to prevent bloodborne pathogen exposure

Bloodborne Pathogens

- General Hazards
 - Bloodborne pathogens are microorganisms found in blood or other bodily fluids that can cause disease in people
 - Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) - AIDS
 - Hepatitis B - affects the liver
 - Hepatitis C - affects the liver - most chronic
 - In situations where you really can't differentiate between body fluids, you have to assume they're potentially infectious



OSHA Regulations

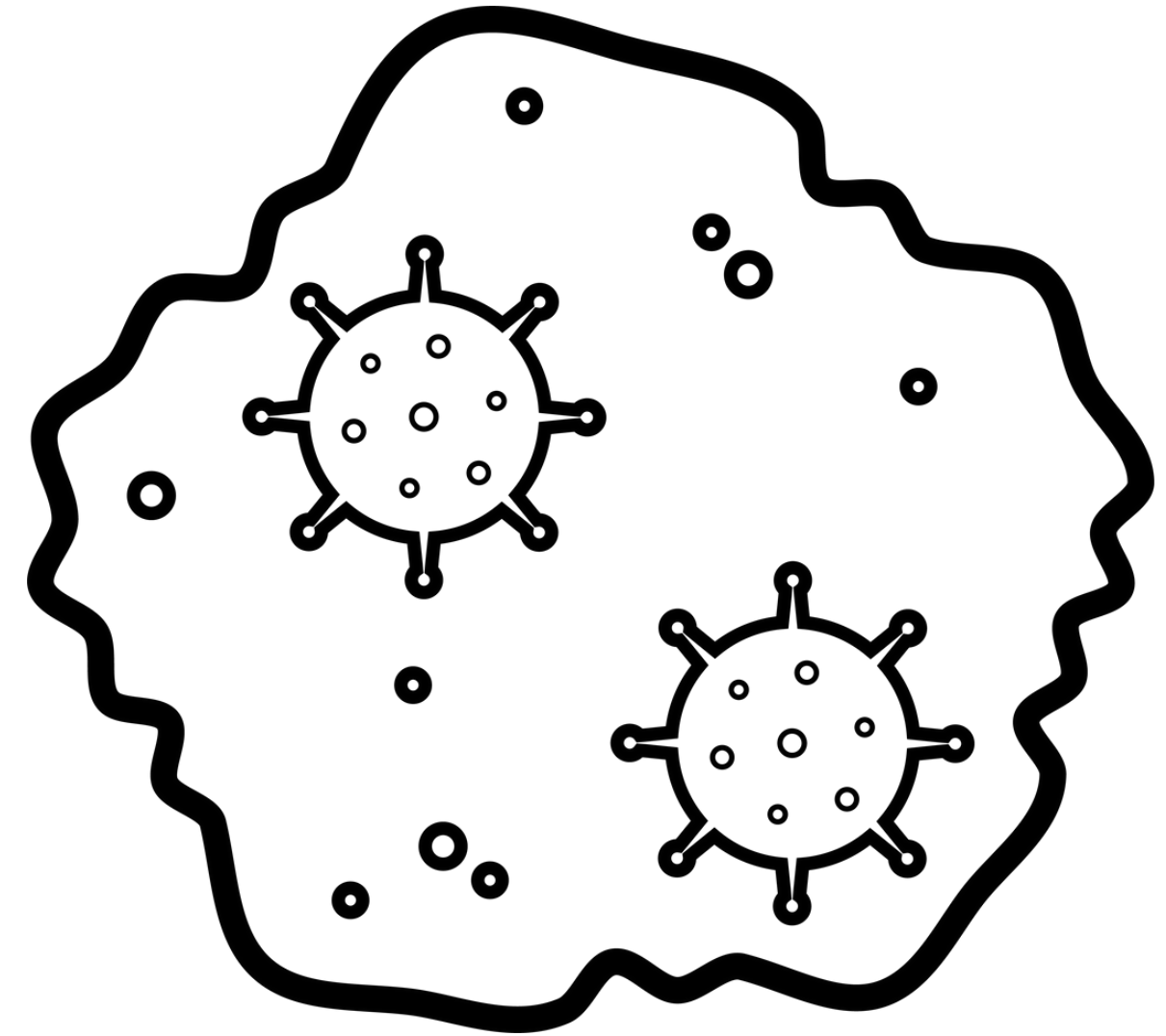
- Have a written Exposure Control Plan that, among other things, identifies job classifications and tasks with potential occupational exposures
- Solicit input from non-managerial employees
- Use engineering and work practice controls, including personal protective equipment (PPE) to eliminate or reduce employee exposure
- Develop and follow written cleaning and decontamination schedules to reduce the chance of accidental exposures if in higher risk occupations

OSHA Regulations (Cont.)

- Offer free Hepatitis B vaccinations to employees likely to be exposed to the virus
- Establish and maintain a sharps injury log
- Use biohazard warning labels and signs on waste containers and other containers that could hold contaminated materials
- Train employees with potential exposure to understand the hazards as well as the protective measures they must follow

Identifying Hazards

- Direct contact between broken or chapped skin and infected body fluids
- Viruses (airborne and non-airborne)
- Sexual contact
- Needles/Sharps



Protection Against Hazards – Universal Precautions

- Treat all human blood and other potentially infectious materials as if they are infected
- Wash Hands
- Employers must provide accessible handwashing facilities
- Employees must wash hands with soap and warm running water as soon as possible after contact with potentially infectious materials
- If soap and water is unavailable, use antiseptic hand cleaners and clean towels or antiseptic towelettes
- Fluid contact with eyes or mucous membranes – flush with water promptly



Protection Against Hazards – Universal Precautions (Cont.)

- Safer Sharps – devices that
 - Provide a barrier between the hands and the needle after use
 - Allow or require hands to always stay behind the needle
 - Are an integral part of the device, rather than an accessory
 - Remain protective before disassembly and after disposal
 - Are easy to operate, requiring little or no training



Protection Against Hazards – Universal Precautions (Cont.)

- PPE – employers must provide, and employees must use
 - Gloves
 - Typically, latex
 - Plastic film gloves used in food handling are NOT appropriate for this purpose.
 - Eye Protection
 - When there's a risk of splashes, surgical masks to protect mucous membranes, protective lab coats, surgical caps or other clothing.
 - Be sure to wear gowns or a Hazmat suit with long sleeves for procedures likely to expose your arm to blood or other potentially infectious materials.



Bloodborne Pathogens Safety Procedures

General Guidelines

- Hand washing is the most important
- Don't suction or pipette blood or other potentially infectious materials by mouth.
- Minimize spraying, splashing, spattering and droplet generation in all procedures involving blood or other potentially infectious materials.
- Don't eat, drink, smoke, apply cosmetics or lip balm or handle contact lenses in work areas where they could be exposed to bloodborne pathogens.
- Don't keep food or drinks where blood or other potentially infectious materials are present. That means refrigerators, cabinets, shelves, countertops, etc.

Bloodborne Pathogens Safety Procedures (Cont.)

- **housekeeping**
 - **Clean and decontaminate all equipment and environmental and working surfaces after they've had contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials.**
 - **Use protective coverings on equipment that would be difficult to decontaminate. Once they're contaminated or the procedure is done, remove the plastic wrap, aluminum foil, or other covers.**
 - **Follow an inspection, cleaning, and decontamination schedule for bins, pails, and other containers you reuse.**
 - **Minimize handling of contaminated laundry. Wear gloves when you remove and bag it.**
 - **Bag contaminated laundry where it was used and sort and rinse it elsewhere.**
 - **Use identified color-coded bags to hold and transport contaminated laundry.**
 - **Using leak-proof bags for wet contaminated laundry.**

KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER

- In the unfortunate event that exposure does occur, employees are required to contact Human Resources immediately to begin the incident reporting process. All findings and diagnosis will remain confidential and excluded from the written report.
- OSHA's regulation is in place to help you detect, prevent, and treat occupational disease



TAKE THE QUIZ

- <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=RZJ-M6ZIREqmNwvW9nbIKxyzzaSUgJJFgf5zZdrqY-IUM0JXRVIzWExSUII0TUMzRVYxTINER0ExRi4u&wdLOR=cC9D98BF5-2BBE-44E7-B45D-087CAD4004E5>

