

Bloodborne Pathogens & Universal Precautions In the School Setting



Annual Faculty In-Service
Sandwich Public Schools



Bloodborne Pathogens & Universal Precautions In the School Setting

REGULATIONS

- OSHA Standard on Blood Borne Pathogens CFR 1910.1030: [OSHA Standard on Bloodborne Pathogens and Needlestick Prevention](#)
 - Massachusetts Division of Occupational Safety policy dictates that public sector employers comply with the same requirements.
 - Sandwich School District Exposure Control Policy mandates annual staff training.

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Objectives of On Line In-Service:

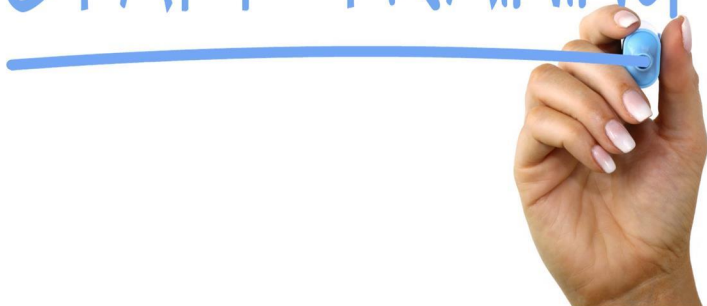
- ▶ List the three most common bloodborne pathogens (BBPs).
- ▶ Identify appropriate actions to reduce risk of exposure to BBPs.
- ▶ Describe how to respond if an exposure or injury occurs.

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ONLINE INSERVICE

- ▶ Annual review for all staff
- ▶ Training for new employees

STAFF TRAINING



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HIPAA

- ▶ Health Information Portability and Accountability Act of 1996
 - ▶ “The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) is a federal law that required the creation of national standards to protect sensitive patient health information from being disclosed without the patient’s consent or knowledge.” (CDC., 2018.
<https://www.cdc.gov/phlp/publications/topic/hipaa.html>)



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FERPA

► Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

- “The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education.” (U.S. Dept of Education., 2020., <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html>)



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YOUR ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- ▶ Minimize the risk of exposures to BBPs for yourself, your students and your coworkers
- ▶ Take proper precautions in ALL situations that present the risk of BBP exposure
- ▶ When an incident occurs, react quickly and correctly



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Bloodborne Pathogens:

Infectious materials in blood, and any body fluid visibly contaminated with blood, that can cause disease in humans including but not limited to:

- ▶ Hepatitis B
- ▶ Hepatitis C
- ▶ Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)



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The Three Most Common BBPs

Hepatitis B:

- ▶ is a viral infection that attacks the liver and can cause both acute and chronic disease*
- ▶ Hepatitis B can be prevented by vaccines that are safe, available and effective*

Hepatitis C:

- ▶ Hepatitis C is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis C virus (HCV): the virus can cause both acute and chronic hepatitis, ranging in severity from a mild illness lasting a few weeks to a serious, lifelong illness **
- ▶ There is currently no effective vaccine against hepatitis C; however, research in this area is ongoing **

*World Health Organization (WHO). (2021). <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/hepatitis-b>

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The Three Most Common BBPs Continued

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV):

- ▶ The human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) targets the immune system and weakens people's defense against many infections and some types of cancer. As the virus destroys and impairs the function of immune cells, infected individuals gradually become immunodeficient*.
- ▶ There is no cure for HIV infection*, however advances have been made in antiretroviral therapy allowing individuals to live longer and manage symptoms.

*World Health Organization (WHO). (2021). <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/hiv-aids>

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EXPOSURE TO BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

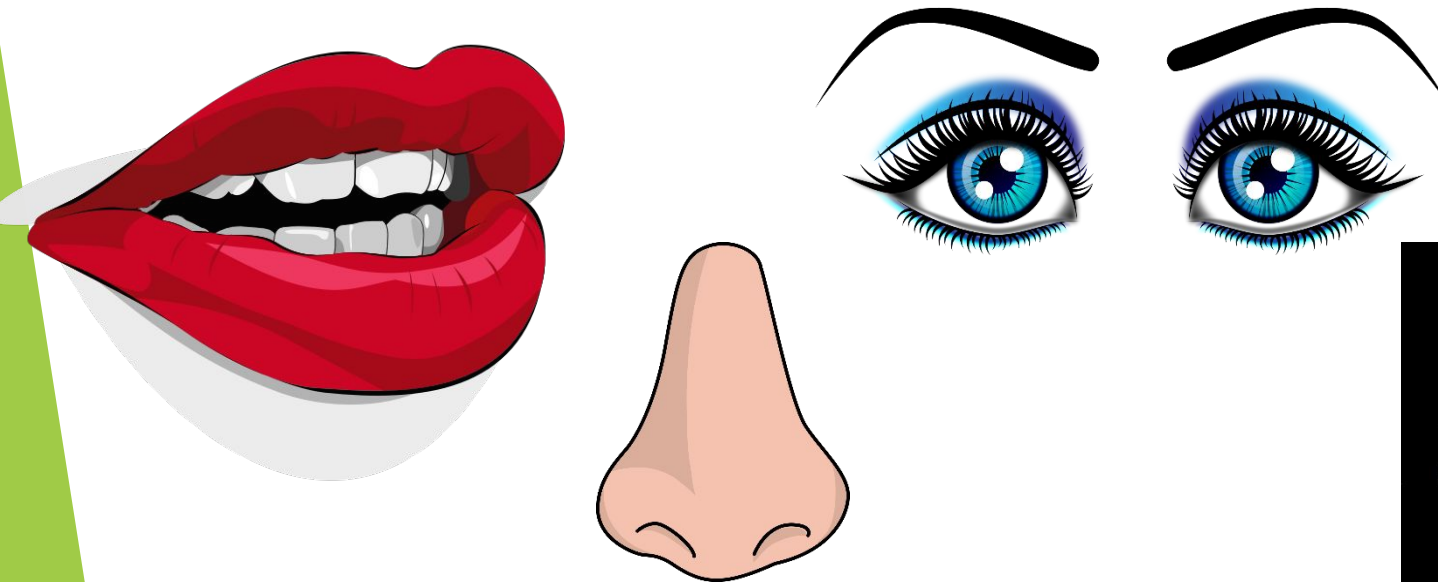
- ▶ The most common cause of transmission *in the workplace* is when an infected person's blood enters another person's bloodstream through an open wound (OSHA, 2020).
- ▶ In health care related environments, exposure to bloodborne pathogens most often occurs due to needle sticks.
- ▶ Outside of the workplace, exposure to bloodborne pathogens may occur when individuals engage in unsafe sexual practices or share used needles.



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Potential risks include infected blood or body fluids that:

- ▶ Splash into the nose, eye or mouth (mucous membranes);
- ▶ Come into contact with broken skin;
- ▶ Or an accidental injury with a sharp object.



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PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHER BY REMEMBERING:

- ▶ UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS
 - ▶ HAND WASHING
- ▶ PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT
- ▶ SANDWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS EXPOSURE CONTROL POLICY

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Universal Precautions

A method of infection control in which all blood or bodily fluids are assumed to be potentially infectious.

“Universal precautions shall be observed to prevent contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials. Under circumstances in which differentiation between body fluid types is difficult or impossible, all body fluids shall be considered potentially infectious materials.” (OSHA, 2020).

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THE FIVE STEPS OF UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS

- ▶ **Education**
 - ▶ Annual inservice, frequent reminders, the Sandwich Public Schools Exposure Control Policy
- ▶ **Hand washing.**
 - ▶ Frequent handwashing at all times
- ▶ **Use of protective barriers (Personal Protective Equipment (PPE))**
 - ▶ Gloves and eye protection when dealing with bleeding wounds
- ▶ **Cleaning of contaminated surfaces.**
 - ▶ Frequent cleaning of high touch surfaces (desks, chairs, shared equipment)
 - ▶ Thorough cleanings performed by trained personnel after accidents or other body fluid scenarios
- ▶ **Safe handling/disposal of contaminated material.**
 - ▶ Locked sharps bins for used needles and broken glass
 - ▶ Properly trained individuals to clean up body fluid spills

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HANDWASHING

How to Perform Proper Handwashing

- ▶ Wet hands thoroughly under warm water.
- ▶ Dispense non-abrasive soap onto wet hands.
- ▶ Vigorously rub hands together for at least 20 seconds.
- ▶ Be sure to scrub all surfaces.
- ▶ Thoroughly rinse hands.
- ▶ Dry hands with disposable towel.
- ▶ Use towel to turn off the faucet and dispose of towel.



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PROPER USE OF HAND SANITIZER

- Apply a palmful of the product in a cupped hand, covering all surfaces;
 - Rub hands palm to palm;
- Right palm over left dorsum with interlaced fingers and vice versa;
 - Palm to palm with fingers interlaced;
 - Backs of fingers to opposing palms with fingers interlocked;
- Rotational rubbing of left thumb clasped in right palm and vice versa;
 - Rotational rubbing, backwards and forwards with clasped fingers of right hand in left palm and vice versa;
 - Once dry, your hands are safe.
- ALWAYS WASH YOUR HANDS WHEN THEY ARE VISIBLY SOILED



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WORK SURFACES

- ▶ Desks, counters, doorknobs and high contact areas should be cleaned frequently with facilities approved disinfectant.



SHARP OBJECTS

- ▶ Never compact overflowing trash containers with your hands or feet
- ▶ Always carry trash bags away from the body
- ▶ Never pick up broken glass with your hands.



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Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Personal protective equipment, commonly referred to as "PPE", is equipment worn to minimize exposure to hazards that cause serious workplace injuries and illnesses.

Examples of **PPE** include: disposable gloves, gowns, laboratory coats, protective face shields, resuscitation masks or shields, and mouth pieces.



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Using Gloves

- ▶ Always wear gloves when you anticipate touching blood, bodily fluids or contaminated surfaces.
- ▶ Wear disposable non-latex gloves when administering first aid.
- ▶ If you have cuts, cover them with a band aid first before putting on gloves.
- ▶ Make sure gloves fit snugly.
- ▶ Check for rips or tears.



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Proper Glove Removal:

1. Grasp outside edge of glove near wrist.
2. Peel away from hand turning glove inside out.
3. Hold in opposite hand.
4. Slide ungloved finger under the wrist of the remaining glove.
5. Peel off from the inside while continuing to hold first glove.
6. Discard.



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Needle/ Sharps Disposal

- ▶ Always place used sharps in biohazard sharps container found in the Health Office.



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Accidental Exposure

If despite precautions you are exposed:

- ▶ Immediately wash the exposed area with soap & water
- ▶ Flush eyes, nose, or mouth with running water if they have been exposed.



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If An Injury Occurs:

1. Assess the situation. Your first instinct is to help an injured child immediately, BUT take a moment to think so that you can safely approach the situation.
2. Administer First Aid
 1. For minor cuts & scrapes, encourage the victim to self-administer first aid (i.e. for a nose bleed, a student can pinch their nose themselves or for a cut they can cover the cut with gauze until seen by the school nurse).
 2. For more serious injuries, put on a pair of gloves before you administer first aid and call for the school nurse.
3. Report the Incident
 1. Report any accidental incident immediately to the school nurse.
4. An Exposure Report is required when an accidental exposure or incident occurs in which there is a potential exposure to a BBP.

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Exposure Control Plan

- ▶ OSHA requires employers to develop written documents to explain how they will implement the BBP standard, provide training to employees and protect the health & safety of their workers.
- ▶ The Sandwich Public Schools Exposure Control Plan was adopted by the School Committee in June 2002 to comply with the regulations.

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At Risk Jobs

- Health Service Personnel
- Coaches, Athletic Trainers, & PE Teachers
- Special Ed Teachers
- Special Ed Bus Drivers & Aides
- Custodians



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Cleaning Up Blood and Bodily Fluid Spills

“Cleaning up a blood spill involves more than just mopping the area. You have to ensure that cleaners aren’t exposed to [bloodborne pathogens](#), disinfect and decontaminate the area, and safely dispose of the blood and cleaning materials” (OSHA, 2020)

If you require the clean up of blood or bodily fluids, please contact your custodial staff who have been properly trained.

While you are waiting, ensure that students or others do not intentionally or inadvertently come into contact with the fluids.



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Disposing of Contaminated Waste

- ▶ Wear gloves
 - ▶ All staff are given gloves at the beginning of the school year. See the school nurse if you need another pair.
- ▶ Place contaminated items in a leak proof bag.
- ▶ Place securely fastened bag in a plastic lined trash container.
- ▶ Discard gloves.
- ▶ Notify custodial staff

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Soiled Clothing

- ▶ A small amount of dried blood, such as may occur on a shirt sleeve after a small cut to the hand, does not constitute significant risk of BBP exposure
- ▶ If a student has had an injury or accident that has resulted in significant body fluid staining or soak through of the clothing, he/she/they should be sent to the nurses office for a change of clothing.
 - ▶ Staff members may also come to the nurse if this were to happen to them
 - ▶ If the clothing is an outer layer or coat, the student may just choose to remove that layer

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Contaminated Sharps

- ▶ Any contaminated object that can penetrate the skin including, but not limited to needles, and broken glass.
- ▶ Wear Gloves.
- ▶ Use a brush & dustpan or tongs to pick up broken glass/sharp objects. Never directly use your hands.
- ▶ Place the items in a closable, leak proof, puncture resistant container.



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Sports Equipment

Use an EPA-registered disinfectant solution to clean and decontaminate sports items and equipment that has come in contact with blood.

If you are unsure about the disinfectant available to you, please contact your custodial / maintenance staff.



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Summary

You have explored:

- ▶ The 3 most common BBPs.
- ▶ Universal Precautions for reducing risk of exposure.
- ▶ What to do when an injury occurs.



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Please complete the Post Test for your school by clicking the link below.

[OAK RIDGE](#)

[FORESTDALE](#)

[STEM ACADEMY](#)

[SANDWICH HIGH SCHOOL](#)

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