

BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS EXPOSURE CONTROL PLAN

CHAPTER 81, HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE; SUB CHAPTER H

Purpose: The purpose of universal precautions is to eliminate or minimize exposure to blood or other potentially infectious (PIM) body fluids. Treat all blood as potentially infectious. Appropriate barrier precautions should be used to prevent skin and mucous membrane exposure when in contact with blood or bodily fluids of any person.

Exposure Determination: The Texas Department of Health Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan requires employers to perform an exposure determination for employees who have occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials. The exposure determination is made without regard to the use of personal protective equipment. This exposure determination is required to list all job classifications in which employees have occupational exposure, regardless of frequency. **The following job classifications apply: Nurse, Nurse Aide, and Athletic Trainer.**

Hand washing: Hand washing is an important preventive measure in the spread of disease. Hands and other skin surfaces should be washed after contact with blood or body fluids and after removal of gloves. Hand washing facilities with germicidal soap are provided for employees who incur exposure to blood or other PIM. Hand washing should be done with running water and soap, vigorously scrubbing hands, wrists, between fingers and under nails. Hands should then be rinsed thoroughly, allowing water to run off finger tips. Dry with paper towel, and then use the towel to turn off the faucet.

Sharps: Needles or other sharps such as lancets used to test blood sugar in diabetic students should be disposed of in the sharps container in the nurse's office. The needles should not be recapped or broken. All regulated waste is properly disposed of in accordance with federal, state, county, and local requirements.

Work Area Restrictions: Minimize splashing as much as possible. Do not eat, drink, put in contacts, or apply cosmetics or lip balms in areas with possible exposure.

Personal Protective Equipment: Gloves are worn where it is reasonably anticipated that employees will have hand contact with blood or other PIM. Latex sensitive employees are provided with suitable alternative personal protective equipment. Gloves should be worn only once and then discarded. They are to be replaced as soon as practical when they become torn, punctured, or when their ability to function as a barrier is compromised. Skin breaks or dermatitis should be covered with a bandage under the gloves. Hands should be washed immediately after removal of gloves. Goggles and masks should be worn whenever droplets of blood or other PIM may be generated and eye, nose, or mouth contamination can be reasonably anticipated. Mucous membranes should be flushed with water immediately if exposure to blood occurs.

Housekeeping: This facility is cleaned and decontaminated with an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) registered germicide to maintain an antiseptic clean environment at all times. All contaminated work surfaces are decontaminated after any spill of blood or other (PIM) and at the end of the work shift. **Any broken glass is not to be picked up directly with the hands.**

Laundry Procedures: Articles contaminated with blood should be triple bagged and thrown away in a garbage can and have custodian remove it as soon as possible.

Hepatitis B Vaccine: All employees who have been identified as having occupational exposure to blood or other PIM are offered the hepatitis B vaccine, at no cost to the employee, under the supervision of a licensed physician or licensed healthcare professional. The vaccine is offered after bloodborne pathogens

training and within 10 working days of their initial assignment to work unless the employee has previously received the complete hepatitis B vaccination series, antibody testing has revealed that the employee is immune, or that the vaccine is contraindicated for medical reasons. Employees receive the vaccine at (State health department, Immunization Clinic, etc.) Employees who decline the Hepatitis B vaccine sign a declination statement. Employees who initially decline the vaccine but who later elect to receive it may then have the vaccine provided at no cost.

Post Exposure Evaluation and Follow up: When the employee incurs an exposure incident, the employee reports to the Campus Nurse, who will notify the District Nurse. All employees who incur an exposure incident are required to follow the steps as specified in this section:

- Documentation of the route(s) of exposure and the circumstances related to the incident.
- The employee is informed about what potential illnesses can develop and advised to seek early medical evaluation and subsequent treatment.
- The Lampasas ISD District Nurse is designated to assure that the policy outlined here is effectively carried out and maintains records related to this policy.

Training: Training for all employees is conducted prior to initial assignment to tasks where occupational exposure may occur. All employees also receive annual refresher training. This training is to be conducted within one year of the employee's previous training.

Training for employees is conducted by person knowledgeable in the subject matter and includes an explanation of the following:

- OSHA Bloodborne Pathogen Final Rule
- Epidemiology and symptomatology of bloodborne diseases
- Modes of transmission of bloodborne pathogens
- LISD's Exposure Control Plan, i.e. points of the plan, lines of responsibility, how the plan will be implemented, where to access Plan, etc.
- Procedures which might cause exposure to blood or potentially infectious materials (PIM)
- Control methods which are used at LISD to control exposure to blood or PIM
- Personal protective equipment available at LISD
- Hepatitis B vaccine program at LISD
- Procedures to follow in an emergency involving blood or PIM
- Procedure to follow if an exposure incident occurs, to include U.S. Public Health Service Post Exposure Prophylaxis Guidelines
- Post exposure evaluation and follow up
- Signs and labels used at LISD
- An opportunity to ask questions with the individual conducting the training

Record Keeping: According to OSHA's Bloodborne Pathogens Standard, medical records are maintained by the Lampasas ISD Director of School Health. According to OSHA's Bloodborne Pathogens Standard, training records are maintained by the Lampasas ISD Safety Coordinator.

Annual Review: This plan will be evaluated regularly by appropriate district staff to ensure compliance in all areas. Additionally, the Lampasas ISD Director of School Health will utilize in Appendix C to evaluate each campus and/or department, as appropriate.