

Iowa County, Iowa
Policy Manual

Title: Bloodborne Pathogens	Reference #: SA003
Section: Safety	Date Effective/Revised: 7/1/2016
Department (s): All	Approved By: Board of Supervisors

Purpose

This program summary was created to ensure the safety and health of our employees to reduce or eliminate occupational exposure to blood-borne pathogens. All procedures and policies were prepared in accordance with OSHA regulation Section 1910.1030 Blood-borne Pathogens. The entire report can be found at https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_id=10051&p_table=STANDARDS. Copies of this program will also be located at each department within Iowa County.

Definitions

Contaminated – means the presence or the reasonably anticipated presence of blood or other potentially infectious materials on an item or surface.

Exposure Incident – means a specific eye, mouth, other mucous membrane, non-intact skin or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials that result from the performance of an employee’s duties.

Occupational Exposure – means reasonably anticipated skin, eye, mucous membrane or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials that *may* result from the performance of an employee’s duties.

Universal Precautions – is an approach to infection control. According to the concept of Universal Precautions, all human blood and certain human body fluids are treated as if known to be infectious for HIV, HBV and other Bloodborne pathogens.

Work Practice Controls – means controls that reduce the likelihood of exposure by altering the manner in which a task is performed (ex. prohibiting recapping of needles by a two-handed technique).

****For a complete listing of all definitions refer to OSHA regulation Section 1910.1030(b).***

Employee Information and Training

All Iowa County Employees will receive Bloodborne Pathogen training as required by OSHA Regulation Section 1910.1030(g)(2). Options for this training include but are not limited to IMWCA Online University, video instruction, or face to face training.

Employees Covered

The Iowa County Safety Committee has established that ALL Iowa County Employees will be covered under this program. Specific risk levels are as follows:

High: *EMS, Public Health, Sheriff’s Deputies, Jailers, Conservation Employees, Emergency Manager, and Maintenance/Janitors.*

Moderate: *Secondary Road Department, Transportation, & Community Services.*

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Low: *Courthouse Employee's, Veterans Affairs Director, Dispatch Employees & all secretarial staff (Sheriff's Dept. and Engineer's Office)*

Personal Protective Equipment

- Iowa County will provide all PPE as required by OSHA Regulation Section 1910.1030(d)(3).
- Contaminated equipment and clothing shall be cleaned, laundered or disposed of by each department (*see Contaminated Laundry section of this policy*).

***Iowa County Ambulance Service Employees:** See ambulance policy AMB 1057 Exposure Control Plan for additional detail on exposure controls.

Universal Precautions

Employees must comply with the following precautions if exposed to blood or any blood products:

- a. Wash hands after any potential exposures as soon as practical. Bottles of waterless hand soap may be issued to all employees working at locations without water sources.
- b. Use necessary PPE.
- c. Contaminated sharps, glass or needles must be disposed in a puncture resistant and leak proof container with proper warning labels.
- d. Disinfect respirators after each use.
- e. Eating, drinking, smoking, applying makeup or handling contact lenses is prohibited in work areas where there is a reasonable likelihood of exposure.

Housekeeping

- All Iowa County work-sites and vehicles will be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition.
 - *See Iowa County Sheriff's Department Standard Operating Procedure for specific Patrol Vehicle Clean-up/Sanitize guidelines*
 - *See Iowa County Ambulance Policies for specific EMS operations regarding cleaning procedures.*
- All contaminated equipment or locations shall be cleaned up as soon as feasible using universal precautions.
- Biohazard bags and containers will be provided for contaminated material disposal.

Contaminated Laundry

- Personal Protective Equipment must be worn when handling any contaminated laundry.

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- Contaminated Laundry shall be placed in Biohazard Bags/Containers at the location where the exposure occurred and transported to the Iowa County Law Enforcement Center in such containers for cleaning.
 - *See Iowa County Ambulance Policies for specific EMS operations regarding contaminated laundry.*
- If laundry is too soiled to clean, Amana Family Practice will be contacted for disposal procedures.

****For a complete listing of all Contaminated Laundry guidelines, refer to OSHA regulation Section 1910.1030(d)(4).***

Hepatitis B Vaccination

All Iowa County Employees have the option, during their employment, to receive the Hepatitis B Vaccination series free of charge. Hepatitis B “boosters” are also available to all employees who have had an exposure incident.

Hepatitis B vaccinations and post-exposure evaluations along with all medical assessments and procedures will be performed by or under the supervision of a licensed physician.

Employees seeking these vaccinations, post-exposure review or other medical evaluations or procedures contact:

Compass Memorial Healthcare – (319) 642-5543
Iowa County Public Health – (319) 741-6422

All Iowa County employees must complete either the consent or declination form (*Policy SA013 Hepatitis B Consent Form*). These forms and other medical records shall be maintained in the employees’ confidential medical file.

Post-exposure procedures

Employees subjected to an exposure incident must:

1. Notify their Department Head/Supervisor AND Company Nurse immediately.
2. Report to Iowa County Public Health for post-exposure evaluation, care and counseling.

Department Head/Supervisors are responsible for:

1. Confirming employee contacts Company Nurse immediately.
2. Ensuring employee reports to Iowa County Public Health for post-exposure evaluation, care and counseling.
3. Completing an Employer Investigation Report (*see pages 23 - 24 of this policy*) and return it to Safety Director within 24 hours. (Employer Investigation Reports are available from the Safety Director)