

# Bloodborne Pathogens For School & Parish Employees

## **Diocese of Gaylord**

Bloodborne Pathogens Training  
and Annual Review

# Introduction

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- The Diocese of Gaylord is required to identify the personnel whose job duties expose them to blood and potentially infectious body fluids. Not every *employee* is occupationally exposed to bloodborne pathogens while performing his or her job. **However**, it is important for everyone to understand the dangers of infection and the safety procedures to minimize risk.
- Once you have reviewed the Bloodborne Pathogens (BBP) PowerPoint presentation, you **MUST** follow the directions on the final page to complete your annual training / review.



# The Facts on Bloodborne Diseases

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- Bloodborne Pathogens are microorganisms carried by human blood and other body fluids.
- The 3 deadliest bloodborne diseases are:
  - HBV – Hepatitis B Virus
  - HCV – Hepatitis C Virus
  - HIV – Human Immunodeficiency Virus

# Hepatitis B (HBV)

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- Hepatitis B is a contagious liver disease that ranges in severity from a mild illness lasting a few weeks to a serious, lifelong illness. It results from infection with the Hepatitis B virus. Hepatitis B can be either “acute” or “chronic.”
- There is no cure for HBV.
- HBV poses a greater risk than HCV & HIV because it is more easily transmitted.
- Symptoms include fever, jaundice, fatigue, loss of appetite, abdominal pain, nausea and vomiting.
- People infected with HBV may not know they are infected or may not have symptoms; however they can still infect others.

# Hepatitis B Vaccine

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- HBV **can be prevented** by receiving the Hepatitis B vaccine and taking appropriate safety precautions.
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- The vaccine can also be started within 24 hours of exposure and is included in the post-exposure evaluation and follow up plan.

# Hepatitis C (HCV)

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- Hepatitis C is a virus that attacks the liver and presents with symptoms similar to Hepatitis B.
- Many people infected with Hepatitis C may not know or do not have any symptoms.
- Hepatitis C is the leading cause of liver transplants.
- There is **not** a vaccine available to prevent Hepatitis C.

# Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

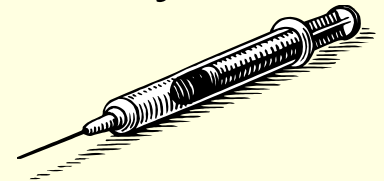
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- HIV attacks the person's immune system and causes it to break down.
- The infected person becomes seriously ill when the immune system loses its ability to fight infection.
- Some infected persons may go on to develop AIDS.
- There is **not** a preventative vaccine for HIV.



# Transmission of Bloodborne Diseases

- Spreads most easily through contact with blood, semen, vaginal secretions and other body fluids and tissue with visible blood.
- Bloodborne viruses are most commonly transmitted by:
  - Sharing needles to inject drugs.
  - Having unprotected sex with an infected person.
  - Transmitting the virus from mother to unborn child during pregnancy.





# Transmission at Work

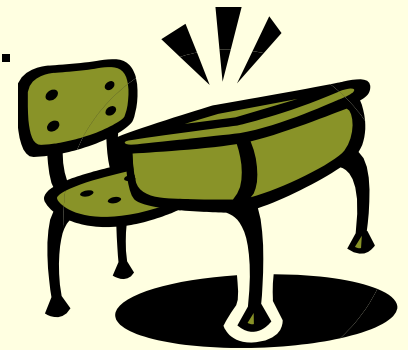
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- Bloodborne viruses at **work** are transmitted mostly by:
  - A contaminated sharp punctures the skin
  - Contaminated blood or body fluid entering your body through broken skin (i.e. cuts, nicks, abrasions, dermatitis, and acne) or the mucous membranes of the eyes, nose, or mouth.

# Transmission - Indirectly

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- Indirect transmission occurs when you touch a contaminated object or surface and then transfer the infection to your mouth, eyes, nose or non-intact skin.
- **Contaminated surfaces** are a major cause of the spread of hepatitis. HBV can survive on environmental surfaces, dried and at room temperature, for at least one week.



# Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

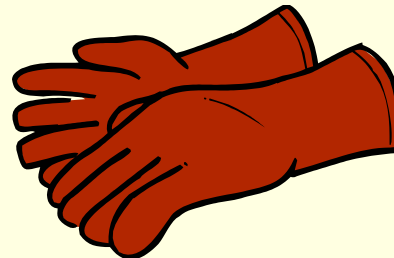
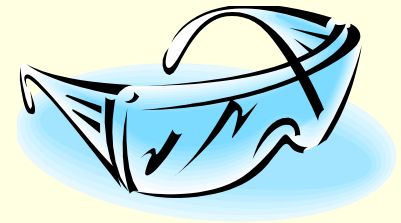
- Equipment that protects you from contact with blood or other potentially infected material (PIM) include:

- **Gloves**

- Gowns, Aprons, Lab Coats

- Face Shields, Protective Eye Wear

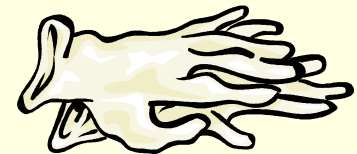
- Masks, Mouthpieces, Resuscitation Bags



# Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) continued

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- The PPE must fit properly, especially gloves.
- All PPE must be **free of physical flaws** that could compromise safety.
- You must use appropriate PPE each time you perform a task involving PIMs.
- Additional gloves and other PPE can be requested.



# Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) - Gloves

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- Gloves should be removed **when they become contaminated or damaged or immediately after finishing the task.** You must follow a safe procedure for glove removal, being careful that no pathogens from the soiled gloves contact your hands. Wash hands as soon as you can after removing gloves.



# Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – Glove Removal

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## ■ Glove Removal

- With both hands gloved, peel one glove off from top to bottom and hold it in the gloved hand.
- With the exposed hand, peel the second glove from the inside, tucking the first glove inside the second.
- Dispose of the entire bundle promptly.
- Never touch the outside of the glove with bare skin.
- Every time you remove your gloves, wash your hands with soap and warm running water as soon as you possibly can.



# Hand Washing



- **Hand washing** is the **#1 protection** against infection.
- Wash hands after coming in contact with blood, body fluids, excretions, and secretions **even if you were wearing gloves**.
- Hand Washing Steps
  - Use soap and warm running water for 20 seconds.
  - Rub vigorously over all surfaces, including above your wrists and under fingernails.
  - Rinse thoroughly and dry with a clean paper towel and discard.
  - Use a clean paper towel to turn off the faucet and discard.



# Standard Precautions

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- Research shows that proper **safety precautions** greatly reduce the risk of coming in contact with bloodborne pathogens.
- To reduce your risk:
  - **Handle all** blood and body fluids as if they are infectious.
  - Dispose of sharps (needles) safely.
  - Wear personal protective equipment (PPE) when exposed to blood and body fluids.
  - Clean and disinfect areas possibly contaminated with infectious materials with the proper cleaning agent or with a mixture of bleach and water (one part household bleach to 10 parts water).
  - Get the Hepatitis B vaccine.





# Standard Precautions – Signs and Labels

- Watch for fluorescent orange-red labels, red bags, and containers with a biohazard symbol. This symbol will **warn** you when the contents of containers are used for waste, storage, or shipping contain blood or other potential infectious material.



# Safety Guidelines

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- We have outlined the safety methods that can help **prevent** you from becoming infected with bloodborne viruses.
- OSHA highly recommends receiving the immunization for HBV.
- Remember, there are **no vaccines** for HCV and HIV, so it is important to **follow all safety precautions.**

# Safe Practices to Follow

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- Do not eat, drink, or smoke when you are likely to be exposed to blood or body fluids.
- Do not handle contact lenses or apply cosmetics/lip balm when exposure is possible.
- Never keep food and drink in places where blood and other possible infectious materials are present.

# Safe Practices to Follow

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- Clean all blood and bodily fluid spills promptly according to the Exposure Control Plan.
- Keep work surfaces and protective coverings clean.
- Trash may contain contaminated sharps and shards, so never push down with your hands and feet.



# Housekeeping

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- Effective housekeeping strategies include:
  - Clean and decontaminate all material with the appropriate disinfectant / cleaner.
  - Use a broom and dust pan to pick up broken glass instead of your hands.
  - Dispose of sharps and other potential infectious material in appropriately marked containers.
  - Handle contaminated laundry as little as possible.





# What to do if Exposed?

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- Do not panic if you are exposed to blood or other body fluids.
- **Immediately wash the skin area with soap and water.**
- If blood or other potentially infectious material comes in contact with your eyes, immediately flush them with large amounts of clean, running water.
- Do not use caustic agents, such as bleach to clean contacted skin areas. They can damage the skin.
- **Report the exposure incident to your administrator and/or seek medical attention immediately so that a post-exposure evaluation can begin.**
- **Go to local Northern Michigan Urgicare or ER and tell them your exposure is work related.**

# Request for more information

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- Your best tool to prevent infection is to follow the work practices discussed in this presentation.
- If you have any questions or feel you would like more information regarding bloodborne pathogens, please contact your local health department.

# Stay Safe!

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- Protecting yourself from bloodborne diseases on the job requires **knowing the facts and taking sensible precautions**. As a Diocese of Gaylord employee, backed by OSHA's Bloodborne Pathogens Standards and your local Diocesan Parish/School's Exposure Control Plan, you can confidently protect yourself from bloodborne infections.



# Resources

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- The information presented in this presentation was taken from Bloodborne Pathogens: Handbook and from the video, Bloodborne Pathogens for School & Parish Employees. Both items are produced by Coastal Video Communications Corp.

# Annual Review Documentation

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- Once you have reviewed the information for your Bloodborne Pathogens Annual Review, please go back to the website and complete the Acknowledgement Statement. **This step must be completed to fulfill your annual competency.**