

## Understanding Bloodborne Pathogens

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Congratulations!

## Understanding Bloodborne Pathogens

Nar: This is Theresa

Theresa: I used to work as a nurse phlebotomist.

Nar: Theresa did not always follow universal precautions and she did not ensure proper controls were in place.

Theresa: You know, sometimes people just rush you...

Nar: But one day she made a mistake, which caused her to contract a bloodborne pathogen.

Theresa: I was drawing blood one day from a middle-aged woman, and she was telling me about her kids who were sitting in the waiting room and how she was running late getting them to soccer. So I started rushing as well. I put on my gloves and drew her blood using a safety

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needle. When I was done, I placed the needle back on the tray without closing the safety cap, bandaged her up, removed my gloves, and walked her out.

Nar: But when Theresa returned, she got "stuck" with a situation she hadn't planned for.

Theresa: When I came back, I was rushing around and I bumped my arm into the used needle! I still remember that feeling of dread!

I hoped I would be fine— the woman seemed nice enough. She had kids and looked well-kempt. But now I know that has nothing to do with infectious diseases. People from all walks of life have them.

## Regulations and Standards

(Second narrator?): **Bloodborne pathogens**, which are also known as BBPs, pose a very real risk to all employees. An exposure can result in serious and life-threatening illness.

Exposure and injury prevention is the responsibility of every employee. Knowing what is in your organization's exposure control plan, or ECP, and adhering to it, is a great step forward in maintaining a safe and injury-free workplace.

We've brought you here today to do three things: First, you'll need to recognize BBPs and potential BBP hazards. Second, you'll need to describe how to prevent BBP transmission. Lastly, you'll need to know what to do during a workplace exposure.

## Bloodborne Pathogens Standard

Let's get started by defining pathogens and bloodborne pathogens.

A **pathogen** is any bacterium, virus, or microorganism that can cause disease.

A **bloodborne pathogen (BBP)** is a type of pathogen that is spread specifically through contact with **blood** and **other potentially infectious materials, or OPIMs**, such as:

- Blood products
- Body parts
- Semen
- Vaginal secretions
- Birth fluids
- and
- Fluids that are in the brain, spine, joints, lungs, abdomen, and heart

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration, which also goes by OSHA, has come up with a bloodborne pathogen standard to protect us.

Our organization must comply with OSHA's BBP standard because our employees can reasonably anticipate coming into contact with infected blood or OPIM.

## Transmission

Healthcare workers can potentially be exposed to BBPs in two ways:

- If they are injured by a sharp object

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OR

- If the infected blood or OPIM touches a mucous membrane or open wound. Mucous membranes are the moist openings on a person's body, such as the mouth, eyes, nose, ears, vagina, and rectum.

Exposure that results from the performance of an employee's duties is called an occupational exposure.

Let's determine which of the following could be considered a BBP exposure incident:

- A. Sharing personal items, such as a toothbrush, that are contaminated with infectious blood  
Feedback [Blood can be transmitted via toothbrushes into your mouth.]
- B. Shaking hands with someone  
Feedback [This is not considered a BBP exposure incident as no blood or OPIM is transmitted.]
- C. Sharing a razor with another person  
Feedback [Blood can be transmitted by a razor via cuts.]
- D. Having blood from an infected person contact a cut on your arm  
Feedback [BBPs can be transmitted if blood gets into cuts or other non-intact skin.]
- E. Having a close conversation  
Feedback [This is not considered a BBP exposure incident as no blood or OPIM is transmitted.]
- F. Sharing a hairbrush  
Feedback [This is not considered a BBP exposure incident as no blood or OPIM is transmitted.]

Remember, anyone can contract a bloodborne pathogen if they are stuck with a needle or sharp instrument that has touched an infected person's blood or OPIM. A person could also become infected if the infected blood or bodily fluid touches a mucous membrane or open wound.

Bloodborne pathogens are NOT spread through food or water, coughing or sneezing, or casual contact such as sharing utensils, hugging, kissing, or hand holding.

## Bloodborne Pathogens

Can you identify which of the following pathogens are BBPs?

- A. Chickenpox  
Feedback [This is not considered a BBP.]
- B. Hepatitis B virus (HBV)  
Feedback [Hepatitis B is the most common cause of liver infection and can cause serious liver damage and death.]
- C. Hepatitis C virus (HCV)  
Feedback [Hepatitis C causes serious damage to the liver and can be fatal.]
- D. Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)  
Feedback [HIV is the virus that causes AIDS. It disables the body's immune system until it is no longer capable of fighting infection.]
- E. Influenza

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Feedback [This is not considered a BBP.]

## F. Tuberculosis

Feedback [This is not considered a BBP.]

Some BBPs can survive outside of the body for quite some time while still remaining capable of causing infection. For example, HBV can survive up to 7 days, and HCV can survive up to 3 weeks!

Your exposure control plan should discuss specific BBPs that pose a threat in your workplace; but the three main bloodborne pathogens are Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and human immunodeficiency virus (CDC, 2019).

It is important to know that some individuals may exhibit symptoms of a BBP infection, while others may remain asymptomatic. Regardless of symptoms, if left untreated, these BBPs can cause lifelong chronic conditions and death.

## OSHA's Bloodborne Pathogen Standard

### Exposure Control Plan

The OSHA BBP standard requires all healthcare organizations to have a plan in place to prevent their employees from exposure to these pathogens. This is called an Exposure Control Plan.

An **Exposure Control Plan (ECP)** is a written policy that is designed to eliminate or minimize occupational exposure.

The plan will outline:

- An employee's risk for exposure
  - Methods taken to reduce this risk
- And
- The response if an exposure occurs

This plan must be reviewed and updated annually to reflect any changes in tasks, procedures, and devices that eliminate or minimize occupational exposure.

Every employee needs to know where to find their exposure control plan and should be familiar with its content. Plans can and do differ between organizations. Ask your supervisor about this plan and any elements of it about which you are unsure.

### Universal Precautions

Universal precautions are the best way to avoid exposure.

Theresa: Most people just read statistics about how rare it is to contract a bloodborne pathogen at work, but \*I\* am a real-life statistic. Now I travel around to work sites with a few other people and we share our stories in hopes of educating people on the real dangers of bloodborne pathogens and how to avoid them.

I will tell you that when I was just starting out though, I didn't always follow **universal precautions**.

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Which of the following do you think best describes universal precautions?

- A. Acting as though all blood and OPIM is infectious

Feedback [Exactly! Under the OSHA BBP standard, we must implement the use of universal precautions, which is treating all human blood and OPIM as if they are known to be infectious for bloodborne pathogens.]

- B. Bringing your own gloves to work

Feedback [Although you should be using gloves if you encounter blood, universal precautions refers to treating all human blood and OPIM as if they are known to be infectious for bloodborne pathogens. Under the OSHA BBP standard, we must implement the use of universal precautions.]

You may also hear the term “standard precautions” used sometimes, especially in healthcare settings. Standard precautions are an extension of universal precautions, as they apply to ANY infectious pathogen and not just BBP.

When you see a fluid and you are not sure what it is, ALWAYS assume it may contain a BBP and protect yourself accordingly! Any unidentified body fluids should be considered biomedical waste.

## Engineering Controls

In my case, I contracted a bloodborne pathogen at work. Let's see if you can identify the major mistake I made.

One afternoon, I was drawing blood from a woman who told me she was in a hurry. So I tried to hurry as well. I put on my gloves and drew her blood using a safety needle provided by my employer. When I was finished, I put the needle back on the tray without closing the safety cap, bandaged her up, removed my gloves, and walked her out.

When I came back, I somehow bumped my arm into the used needle! I was very frustrated because it was a safety needle. It was designed to protect me. It shouldn't have been able to stick me!

What was the biggest mistake I made?

- A. Theresa failed to close the safety cap and dispose of the needle in a sharps container.

Feedback [Exactly! Caution must be used when handling needles and other sharps, such as razors, broken glass, or anything that can break the skin. These items must be disposed of in a sharps container.]

- B. Theresa used a safety needle with a safety cap.

Feedback [She SHOULD have been using this type of needle.]

- C. Theresa removed her gloves before she opened the door and walked out of the room.

Feedback [Gloves should be removed before touching other surfaces, such as door handles.]

Engineering controls are devices that isolate or remove the BBP-related hazards from the workplace. Some examples include:

- Sharps disposal containers

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- Self-sheathing needles
- Sharps with engineered sharps-injury protection such as hinged safety caps  
And
- Needleless systems

## Work Practice Controls

In addition to engineering controls, you must use work practice controls.

**Work practice controls** are practices that reduce or eliminate the possibility of exposure by changing the way a task is performed. Examples include specific steps to properly:

- Handle contaminated sharps
- Dispose of contaminated sharps
- Handle specimens
- Manage laundry
- Clean and decontaminate surfaces and items

You must wash your hands after touching bodily fluids of any kind, even if you were wearing gloves when you touched it!

## Sharps Safety

The safe use of sharps in the workplace is critical to an effective ECP. When choosing your sharps device, you should choose one with safety features whenever possible.

Once you have finished using any sharp device, you **MUST** dispose of it **IMMEDIATELY** into an appropriate sharps disposal container.

In most circumstances, you should not recap a blade or needle.

Never attempt to retrieve any sharp device once you have placed it into the sharps disposal container.

The vast majority of occupational exposures do not result in infection. But take it from me, any potential exposure can cause emotional distress! My own distress led me through anger, anxiety, fear, sleep loss, and other conditions that diminished my work performance.

## PPE

Under the OSHA BBP standard, employers must provide personal protective equipment, or PPE, to employees when working in environments where a workplace BBP exposure could occur.

See if you can identify the PPE in this room that will help provide BBP protection:

- A. Gloves  
Feedback [Gloves are ALWAYS required when there is potential contact with blood or OPIM.]
- B. Flashlight  
Feedback [This is not PPE.]
- C. Syringe

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Feedback [This is not PPE.]

D. Earplugs

Feedback [This is not needed for BBP protection.]

E. Gown

Feedback [A gown provides protection against blood or OPIM exposure to the body.]

F. Goggles

Feedback [Goggles are necessary when splashes or sprays of blood or OPIM pose a threat to the eyes. A face shield may also be worn instead of goggles to protect the eyes.]

G. Stethoscope

Feedback [This is not PPE.]

H. Face mask

Feedback [A face mask is necessary when splashes or sprays of blood or OPIM pose a threat to the nose or mouth.]

PPE provides a barrier to prevent blood or OPIM from coming into contact with your skin, eyes, nose, and mouth. **Find the personal protective equipment in your workplace and use it every time you may come into contact with blood or OPIM.**

When appropriately using PPE, the risk of being exposed to BBPs in the workplace is very low.

## Hazard Communication

Hazard communication helps us communicate where the BBPs are.

Pay attention to warning labels and signs in your workplace. Warning labels must be affixed to:

- Containers of regulated waste
  - Containers of contaminated reusable sharps
  - Refrigerators and freezers containing blood or OPIM
  - Other containers used to store, transport, or ship blood or OPIM
  - Contaminated equipment that is being shipped or serviced
- And
- Bags or containers of contaminated laundry

Some organizations may use red biohazard bags or containers instead of labels.

Medical supplies that have come in contact with blood or OPIM must be discarded in properly labeled or color-coded leakproof containers, such as red biohazard bags (Bloodborne Pathogens, 2025). Be sure to also follow your agencies' policies and procedures. Medical supplies include supplies that have touched or absorbed blood and other body fluids that may contain blood such as used:

- Gloves
- Wipes
- Bandages

## Hepatitis B Vaccination

The Hepatitis B, or HBV, vaccination is 80 to 100% effective in preventing infection or clinical

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hepatitis (CDC, 2015). The vaccine provides protection for 30 years or more, so booster doses are not recommended (CDC, 2015).

As an employee with a known risk for transmitting Hepatitis B during care, your workplace must offer you the HBV vaccination:

- After you have received the required BBP training
- Within 10 days of initial assignment to a job with the risk of occupational exposure to BBPs  
AND
- At no cost to you

The Hepatitis B vaccine is generally a series of three intramuscular injections. In adults and children, the usual schedule for administration is as follows: The second and third doses administered at 1 and 6 months, respectively, after the initial dose (CDC, 2022). A new formulation of the Hepatitis B vaccine, Heplisav-B, requires two doses, 1 month apart.

While there have been breakthroughs in treatments for Hepatitis C and HIV, no vaccine for either is yet available.

## Review

In the following scenarios, I want you to put together the best defense against BBPs.

Remember to follow universal precautions and your organization's policies and procedures!

You've entered a room that has blood on the floor. Which of the following should you consider using to provide BBP defense?

- A. Gloves  
Feedback [Gloves minimize contact with BBPs.]
- B. Face mask  
Feedback [A face mask can minimize contact with BBPs.]
- C. Goggles  
Feedback [Goggles can minimize contact with BBPs.]
- D. Red biohazard disposal bag  
Feedback [Items that have contacted blood should be disposed of in a biohazard disposal bag.]
- E. Sharps disposal container  
Feedback [You are only cleaning up a spill, so there is no need for a sharps container in this situation.]

Any spill of blood or OPIM should be cleaned AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Clean any visible blood or OPIM with a paper towel or absorbent powder, then disinfect the area with an EPA-approved disinfectant or a 10% solution of bleach (1-part bleach, 9-parts water). Apply the cleaning solution and leave it for at least 10 minutes.

Wash your hands and any areas that may have been exposed to a biohazard.

An individual performs their own finger stick blood glucose check and asks you to help them to dispose of the used lancet, which is sharp! Which of the following should you consider using to

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provide BBP defense?

- A. Gloves  
Feedback [Gloves are ALWAYS required when there is potential contact with blood or OPIM.]
- B. Face mask  
Feedback [This is not needed since there will be no splashes or sprays.]
- C. Goggles  
Feedback [This is not needed since there will be no splashes or sprays.]
- D. Red biohazard disposal bag  
Feedback [Lancets are sharp, and therefore cannot be placed in a biohazard bag.]
- E. Sharps disposal container  
Feedback [You DO need to provide a sharps container for the proper disposal of a used lancet.]

Next, a person is incontinent of stool and urine. Which of the following should you use to provide BBP defense?

- A. Gloves  
Feedback [Gloves are required.]
- B. Face mask  
Feedback [This is not needed unless splashes or sprays are expected.]
- C. Goggles  
Feedback This is not needed unless splashes or sprays are expected.]
- D. Sharps disposal container  
Feedback: [A sharps container is not needed.]

Items that may contain or have contacted blood should be disposed of in a biohazard disposal bag.

## Post-Exposure Actions

### Post-Exposure Follow-Up

Between universal precautions, engineering controls, safe work practices, PPE, and vaccines, we stand a great chance of beating BBPs in our workplace.

But every plan can collapse if it is executed poorly by your team.

After I had the needle stick, my employer had to provide a post-exposure evaluation and follow-up. They also documented the circumstances and offered post-exposure prophylaxis and counseling.

I very willingly accepted all of it.

### Medical Consultation and Treatment

A bloodborne pathogen exposure requires **immediate attention** because the effectiveness of post-exposure treatment is dependent on prompt administration.

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If you are stuck by a needle or other sharp or get blood or OPIM in your eyes, nose, mouth, or on broken skin, **you should immediately** (CDC, 2016):

- Flood the exposed area (nose, mouth, or skin) with water.
- Clean any wound with soap and water or a skin disinfectant, if available.
- Report the exposure to your employer.
- Seek immediate medical attention.

All medical evaluations and procedures will be made available at no cost to employees.

## Report and Document

If you have a workplace exposure to a BBP or OPIM, report the incident to your supervisor as soon as possible and work with them to complete an Exposure Incident Report.

Occupational exposures to BBPs and OPIMs warrant a thorough investigation into the circumstances surrounding the exposure and should occur within 24 hours.

Employers should provide post-exposure evaluation and follow-up and post-exposure treatment to any employee who suffers an exposure incident while performing work assignments.

## Conclusion

So, let's review how can we protect ourselves. The first step is to read and understand your ECP. The second step is to ensure the proper precautions.

### Universal Precautions

Treat all human blood and certain human body fluids as if they were known to be infectious for BBPs.

### Personal Protective Equipment

Use PPE, such as gloves, gowns, and eye protection, every time there is a risk of exposure to BBPs and OPIMs.

### Sharps Safety

Dispose of used sharps promptly into an appropriate sharps disposal container.

### Vaccination

Receive the HBV vaccine when working in an occupational setting where you are at risk for exposure to BBPs or OPIMs.

### Safe Work Practices

Maintain safe work practices, such as:

- Cleaning work surfaces with germicidal products and disinfectants routinely.
- Safely handling biohazard waste.
- Washing hands regularly.
- Communicating hazards to employees.

## Course Contributor

**This course was reviewed by Jennifer W. Burks, M.S.N., R.N.**

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**Acknowledgment:** Anthony A. Barone was the previous author of this educational activity but did not participate in the revision of the current version of this course.

## Resource

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Bloodborne Pathogens 1910.1030  
[https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show\\_document?p\\_table=STANDARDS&p\\_id=10051](https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=STANDARDS&p_id=10051)

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## Congratulations!

You have finished viewing the course content.

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## Exam and BrainSparks

| CE (Y) | BS (Y) | LO # | Q # | Question                                                                                                                             | Feedback                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|--------|--------|------|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|        | Y      | 1    | 1   | True or False: Bloodborne pathogens (BBPs) are infectious microorganisms present in blood and OPIM that can cause disease in humans. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|        |        |      | a   | True                                                                                                                                 | Correct, bloodborne pathogens pose a very real risk to all employees. An exposure can result in serious and life-threatening illness.                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|        |        |      | b   | False                                                                                                                                | Actually, this statement is true. Bloodborne pathogens pose a very real risk to all employees. An exposure can result in serious and life-threatening illness.                                                                                                                                                                      |
|        |        |      |     |                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|        |        | 1    | 2   | True or False: Employees exposed to bloodborne pathogens are at NO RISK for serious or life-threatening illness.                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|        |        |      | a   | True                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|        |        |      | b   | False                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|        |        |      |     |                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|        | Y      | 2    | 3   | What should you do with bandages that are saturated with blood or OPIM?                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|        |        |      | a   | Discard them into a biohazard bag.                                                                                                   | Correct, bandages that are saturated with blood or OPIM meet OSHA's definition of regulated waste because they would release fluid if compressed. These items must be discarded in a properly labeled or color-coded leakproof container, such as a red biohazard bag. Individual facilities may choose stricter disposal policies. |
|        |        |      | b   | Discard them into a sharps container.                                                                                                | Incorrect, sharps containers are only for needles, blades, and other items capable of puncturing the skin. Saturated bandages are regulated waste but should be disposed of in a properly labeled or color-coded leakproof container, such as a red biohazard bag, not a sharps container.                                          |
|        |        |      | c   | Discard them into a general trash can.                                                                                               | Incorrect, saturated bandages can release blood or OPIM if compressed, they are considered regulated waste under OSHA and must be placed in a properly labeled or color-coded leakproof container, such as a red biohazard bag, not regular trash.                                                                                  |
|        |        |      | d   | Reuse them unless the bandages                                                                                                       | Incorrect, bandages are single-use items.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

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|  |   |   |   |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|--|---|---|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  |   |   |   | are visibly soiled.                                                                                                                                       | When saturated with blood or OPIM, they are classified as regulated waste and must be disposed of in properly labeled or color-coded leakproof container, such as a red biohazard bag.                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|  |   |   |   |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|  | Y | 3 | 4 | When cleaning up a work area you feel a sharp burning sensation in your hand and find that you have been cut by a contaminated sharp. What should you do? |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|  |   |   | a | Wash the cut with soap and water but AVOID reporting the incident as an exposure.                                                                         | Actually, you must report this incident. If you are stuck by a needle or other sharp or get blood or OPIM in your eyes, nose, mouth, or on broken skin, immediately do the following: flood the exposed area (nose, mouth, or skin) with water; clean any wound with soap and water or a skin disinfectant if available; report the exposure to your employer; and seek immediate medical attention. |
|  |   |   | b | Wash the cut with soap and water and report the incident as an exposure immediately.                                                                      | Correct, you MUST report this incident. If you are stuck by a needle or other sharp or get blood or OPIM in your eyes, nose, mouth, or on broken skin, immediately do the following: flood the exposed area (nose, mouth, or skin) with water; clean any wound with soap and water or a skin disinfectant if available; report the exposure to your employer; and seek immediate medical attention.  |
|  |   |   | c | Delay medical attention but report an exposure to your employer.                                                                                          | Actually, you must seek immediate medical attention. If you are stuck by a needle or other sharp or get blood or OPIM in your eyes, nose, mouth, or on broken skin, immediately do the following: flood the exposed area (nose, mouth, or skin) with water; clean any wound with soap and water or a skin disinfectant if available; report the exposure to your employer.                           |
|  |   |   | d | Seek immediate medical attention but AVOID reporting the incident until evaluated.                                                                        | Actually, you must report this incident. If you are stuck by a needle or other sharp or get blood or OPIM in your eyes, nose, mouth, or on broken skin, immediately do the following: flood the exposed area (nose, mouth, or skin) with water; clean any wound with soap and water or a skin disinfectant if available; report the exposure to your employer; and seek                              |

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|  |   |   |   |                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--|---|---|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  |   |   |   |                                                                                                              | immediate medical attention.                                                                                                                                       |
|  |   |   |   |                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|  |   | 1 | 5 | What are the three most common bloodborne pathogens (BBPs)?                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|  |   |   | a | Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), and Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV)                  |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|  |   |   | b | Hepatitis C Virus (HCV), Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), and Human Papillomavirus (HPV)                  |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|  |   |   | c | Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), Hepatitis C Virus (HCV), and Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV)                             |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|  |   |   | d | Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), Hepatitis C Virus (HCV), and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)                     |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|  |   |   |   |                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|  | Y | 3 | 6 | Which of the following is LEAST likely to lead to a BBP exposure incident?                                   |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|  |   |   | A | Contact with clean clothing                                                                                  | Correct, contact with clean clothing would not be considered a BBP exposure incident.                                                                              |
|  |   |   | B | Contact with non-intact skin                                                                                 | Actually, contact with non-intact skin would be considered a BBP exposure incident. Contact with clean clothing would not be considered a BBP exposure incident.   |
|  |   |   | C | Contact with a mucous membrane                                                                               | Actually, contact with a mucous membrane would be considered a BBP exposure incident. Contact with clean clothing would not be considered a BBP exposure incident. |
|  |   |   | D | Contact with the mouth                                                                                       | Actually, contact with the mouth would be considered a BBP exposure incident. Contact with clean clothing would not be considered a BBP exposure incident.         |
|  |   |   |   |                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|  |   | 1 | 7 | Which BBP has a vaccine readily available for employees to obtain as a preventative measure before exposure? |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|  |   |   | a | Hepatitis B Virus (HBV)                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|  |   |   | b | Hepatitis C Virus (HCV)                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|  |   |   | c | Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|  |   |   | d | Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV)                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|  |   |   |   |                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|  | Y | 2 | 8 | Which of the following is an unsafe work practice?                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                    |

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|  |   |   |   |                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|--|---|---|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  |   |   | a | Immediately discarding used sharps into a trash can                             | Correct, you should NEVER put a used sharp in the trash can. Instead, you MUST dispose of it into an appropriate sharps disposal container. Never attempt to retrieve any sharp device once you have placed it into the sharps disposal container.                                              |
|  |   |   | b | Treating all bodily fluids as possible bloodborne pathogens (BBPs)              | Actually, this is an example of a safe work practice. You should NEVER put a used sharp in the trash can. Instead, you MUST dispose of it into an appropriate sharps disposal container. Never attempt to retrieve any sharp device once you have placed it into the sharps disposal container. |
|  |   |   | c | Washing hands with soap and water after working around bloodborne pathogens     | Actually, this is an example of a safe work practice. You should NEVER put a used sharp in the trash can. Instead, you MUST dispose of it into an appropriate sharps disposal container. Never attempt to retrieve any sharp device once you have placed it into the sharps disposal container. |
|  |   |   | d | Wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) required for specific job tasks     | Actually, this is an example of a safe work practice. You should NEVER put a used sharp in the trash can. Instead, you MUST dispose of it into an appropriate sharps disposal container. Never attempt to retrieve any sharp device once you have placed it into the sharps disposal container. |
|  |   |   |   |                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|  | Y | 1 | 9 | All of the following are Other Potentially Infectious Materials (OPIMs) EXCEPT: |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|  |   |   | a | Blood products                                                                  | Actually, OPIMs do include blood products, as well as body parts; semen; vaginal secretions; birth fluids; and fluids that are in the lungs, brain, spine, joints, abdomen, and heart. Sweat, however, is not considered an OPIM.                                                               |
|  |   |   | b | Fluids in the lungs                                                             | Actually, OPIMs do include fluids that are in the lungs, brain, spine, joints, abdomen, and heart, as well as blood products, body parts, semen, vaginal secretions, and birth fluids. Sweat, however, is not considered an OPIM.                                                               |
|  |   |   | c | Sweat                                                                           | Right, sweat is not OPIM. Blood. OPIMs include blood products; body parts; semen; vaginal secretions; birth fluids; and                                                                                                                                                                         |

## Understanding Bloodborne Pathogens

|  |  |   |    |                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|--|--|---|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  |  |   |    |                                                                                  | fluids that are in the lungs, brain, spine, joints, abdomen, and heart.                                                                                                                                                       |
|  |  |   | d  | Vaginal fluids                                                                   | Actually, OPIMs do include vaginal fluids, as well as blood products; body parts; semen; birth fluids; and fluids that are in the lungs, brain, spine, joints, abdomen, and heart. Sweat, however, is not considered an OPIM. |
|  |  |   |    |                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|  |  | 1 | 10 | OSHA's Bloodborne Pathogen (BBP) Standard addresses all of the following EXCEPT: |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|  |  |   | a  | Exposure control plans and universal precautions                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|  |  |   | b  | Employee sick leave and paid time off                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|  |  |   | c  | Engineering and work practice controls and personal protective equipment         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|  |  |   | d  | Hepatitis B vaccination and post-exposure follow-up                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |