

# GENERAL MEDICAL 8.0

## Occupational Health Services -- 8.2

### Bloodborne Pathogen Program for Employees -- 8.2.b

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**Date Issued:** December 31, 1998

**Date Last Revised:** March 23, 2011

**Signature:**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cathy R. Taylor, DrPH, MSN, RN". The signature is written in a cursive style and is centered within a light gray rectangular box.

**By:** Cathy R. Taylor, DrPH, MSN, RN  
Assistant Commissioner  
Bureau of Health Services

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#### **POLICY**

An exposure control plan will be established in each region which outlines procedures for eliminating or minimizing employee exposure to blood or other potentially infectious material in the work place. This plan is to be based on the 2002 OSHA Bloodborne Pathogen Standards and the Bureau of Health Services Infection Control Manual.

#### **APPLICABILITY**

This policy applies to all employees in local health departments and regional and central offices, including part-time, contractual and volunteers, whose work place activities include tasks which may include skin, eye, mucous membrane or parental contact with blood or other potentially infectious material.

#### **PURPOSE**

To prevent the spread of infectious diseases and to promote bio-safety in the work place.

#### **PROCEDURE**

The Medical Services Evaluation Committee of the Bureau of Health Services has developed bureau-wide guidelines on infection control which include the current OSHA

Bloodborne Pathogen Standards. The guidelines have been issued under the document entitled Infection Control Manual.

In those regions where Regional Health Officers decide to revise the guidelines for exposure control as outlined in the Infection Control Manual because of unique clinic and laboratory settings in their specific regions, revisions must be filed both with the Medical Director of the Bureau of Health Services and the Director of the Communicable Disease Control Section of the Bureau of Health Services.

All employees whose work-place activities place them at risk for contact with blood or other potentially infectious material are to be thoroughly knowledgeable of their regionally approved exposure control procedures, offered Hepatitis B (HB) vaccine at no cost to themselves and trained on an annual and as needed basis in the appropriate methods of personal and facility protection and post exposure management. If Hepatitis B vaccine is declined by the employee, the **Hepatitis B Vaccine Declination** form found in the Bureau of Health Services Infection Control Manual, under the OSHA Bloodborne Pathogen Standard Section, must be signed and placed in the employee's personnel file.

#### **REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

1. Infection Control Manual, Bureau of Health Services, 2002, Fifth Edition
2. OSHA Bloodborne Pathogen Standards, March 6, 1992

#### **OFFICE OF PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY**

Office of the Medical Director, Bureau of Health Services, (615)741-7305