## **Environmental Health and Safety**

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# **Bloodborne Pathogens**

Bloodborne pathogens are infectious microorganisms in human blood that can cause disease in humans. These include, but are not limited to, hepatitis B (HBV), hepatitis C (HCV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).



## Bloodborne Diseases

- HIV
- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis C

## Infectious Diseases

- Tuberculosis
- MRSA
- Hepatitis A

### **How You May Be Exposed**

- Cleaning Restrooms
- Injured coworker, friend or family member
- Needles in the trash
- Needles in outdoor setting
- Needles in laundry

#### Resources

OSHA: Bloodborne Pathogens

**CDC: Bloodborne Infectious Diseases** 

#### **Universal Precautions**

An approach to infection control that assumes all human blood and certain body fluids are treated as if known to be infectious for bloodborne pathogens.

#### **Preventative Techniques:**

- Wash hands regularly with soap.
- Use gloves if you have open cuts or sores on hands.
- Cover exposed cuts or sores on the rest of the body.
- Avoid skin contact with individuals that may have open cuts or sores.

#### If Exposed to a Bloodborne Pathogen

- Wash the affected area well with soap and water
- Report the exposure if at work
- Talk to a healthcare professional to determine follow-up steps

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