

What are bloodborne pathogens?

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



Employees with occupational exposure to BBPs, based on their job responsibilities, are enrolled in the University's BBP program. Employees in the BBP program are trained on their shop's clean-up procedures and how to practice universal precautions. Universal precautions is an approach to infection control to treat all human blood and certain human body fluids (also referred to as other potentially infectious materials) as if they were known to be infectious for HIV, HBV, and other bloodborne pathogens.

What are Other Potentially Infectious Materials (OPIMs)?

- Semen and vaginal secretions
- Any body fluid contaminated with visible blood
- Any body fluid where it is difficult or impossible to differentiate between body fluids
- Fluids surrounding internal organs, joints, or a fetus
- Human organs, tissues, or cells that are not in a chemical fixative

Who can clean-up blood and OPIMs?

Employees enrolled in the BBP program must follow the clean-up procedure listed in their shop's exposure control plan. Employees not in the BBP program must **contact the service office** by calling 333-0340 to have the appropriate shop respond to clean-up blood and OPIM. Please report the exact location of the area to be cleaned.

Shops that are enrolled in the BBP program:

- BSWs
- Garage & Car Pool
- Plumbers
- Laborers
- Grounds
- Brickmasons

What's considered an exposure?

An exposure is an incident where blood or OPIMs have come into contact with your eye(s), mouth, other mucous membrane, or non-intact skin (e.g. cut, wound, abrasion, chapped skin, acne). Also, an exposure includes needlestick incidents.

What happens if I am exposed?

1. For an exposure via non-intact skin, immediately wash with soap and water. For an eye(s), nose, or mouth exposure, rinse the affected area with water.
2. Report the incident to your supervisor. Your supervisor will offer you an IMMEDIATE medical appointment at Safeworks or Carle Occupational Medicine.

3. Fill out forms (max 3).
 - a. *Report of Exposure to Human Blood or Other Potentially Infectious Material*
 - The exposed employee and foreman must fill out their designated section. Bring completed form to the medical appointment, as there is a section for the treating physician.
 - Form is located on Division of Research Safety's website:
<https://www.dr.s.illinois.edu/site-documents/ReportExposureSourceBBP2015.pdf>
 - b. *First Report of Injury/Illness*
 - The exposed employee and foreman must fill out their designated section.
 - Form is located on Risk Management's website:
https://www.treasury.uillinois.edu/UserFiles/Servers/Server_338/File/riskWorkersComp/FirstReportInjuryIllness.pdf
 - c. *Source Individual Identification*
 - Only needs completed when the source individual is identified.
 - Form can be found on page 53-54 of campus exposure control plan:
<https://www.dr.s.illinois.edu/site-documents/IllinoisExposureControlPlan.pdf>

These reports should be completed regardless of whether the exposed employee receives medical treatment.