

G
2010

**AMERICAN
SAFETY &
HEALTH
INSTITUTE**

Bloodborne Pathogens

**Student Handbook
Preview**



Bloodborne Pathogens Student Handbook, *Version 7.0*

Purpose of this Handbook

This ASHI *Bloodborne Pathogens Version 7.0 Student Handbook* is solely intended to facilitate certification in an ASHI CPR and AED training class. The information in this handbook is furnished for that purpose and is subject to change without notice.

ASHI certification may only be issued when an ASHI-authorized Instructor verifies a student has successfully completed the required core knowledge and skill objectives of the program.

Notice of Rights

No part of this ASHI *Bloodborne Pathogens Version 7.0 Student Handbook* may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without written permission from the American Safety & Health Institute.

Trademarks

American Safety & Health Institute and the ASHI logo are registered trademarks of the American Safety & Health Institute.

American Safety & Health Institute

1450 Westec Drive
Eugene, OR 97402 USA
800-447-3177

E-mail: response@hsi.com
Visit our website at hsi.com/ashi

Copyright © 2012 by the American Safety & Health Institute.
All Rights Reserved. Printed in the United States of America.

First Edition—2012



We Make Learning to Save Lives Easy®

Table of Contents

January 2012

Section 1 — Introduction

What are Bloodborne Pathogens?	2
How Infection Occurs	3

Section 2 — Bloodborne Pathogens

Specific Bloodborne Pathogens	4
Transmitting Bloodborne Pathogens	6
Your Employer's Exposure Control Plan	7
Recognizing the Potential for Exposure	8
Methods to Control the Risk of Exposure	8
Using Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	10
Hepatitis B Immunization	11
If an Exposure Occurs	12
Housekeeping	13
Communicating a Hazard in the Workplace	14

Rate Your Program	15
--------------------------------	----

Preview

Section 1 – Introduction

What are Bloodborne Pathogens?

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has recognized that some employees face a significant health risk as a result of occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious material.

In 1991, OSHA issued the Bloodborne Pathogens Standard, 29 CFR 1910.1030, which applies to all employees who can reasonably come into contact with human blood and other potentially infectious material (OPIM) in the course of their job activities.

The purpose of the standard is to protect employees by minimizing or eliminating occupational exposure to disease-carrying microorganisms or “pathogens” that can be found in human blood and other body fluids.

The primary bloodborne pathogens are:

- Hepatitis B Virus (HBV)
- Hepatitis C Virus (HCV)
- Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

Other commonly recognized serious diseases include:

- West Nile Virus
- Syphilis
- Tuberculosis
- Influenza

OSHA has concluded that employers can minimize or even eliminate occupational bloodborne hazards by developing and enforcing a combination of exposure control strategies that work for all bloodborne diseases.



The Needlestick Safety and Prevention Act

An estimated 385,000 needlestick injuries occur annually in hospital settings. Nurses are the most frequently injured, but laboratory staff, physicians, housekeepers, and other healthcare workers are also injured.

In response to concern over these exposures, Congress passed the Needlestick Safety and Prevention Act, directing OSHA to revise the Bloodborne Pathogens Standard. This revision became effective in April 2001.

The revised standard states that “safer medical devices, such as sharps with engineered sharps injury protections and needleless systems, must be used where feasible.” Safer needles have built-in safety control devices, such as those that use a self-sheathing needle, to help prevent injuries before, during, and after use through safer design features.

Since the act was implemented, there has been a 31.6% decrease in sharps injuries in non-surgical settings. For more information, OSHA has developed an excellent website dedicated to safety and prevention of needlesticks and sharps injuries. See the Hospital eTool (HealthCare Wide Hazards Module) at <http://www.osha.gov>. (Last accessed October, 2011)

AMERICAN SAFETY & HEALTH INSTITUTE

American Safety & Health Institute
1450 Westec Drive
Eugene, OR 97402 USA
800-447-3177 • 541-344-7099 • 541-344-7429 fax
hsi.com/ashi

Bloodborne Pathogens



Health & Safety Institute — *We Make Learning to Save Lives Easy*[®]
American Safety & Health Institute is a member of the HSI family of brands.