

OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE TO BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

The intent of this policy is to insure proper implementation of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standard to eliminate or minimize occupational exposure to Hepatitis B virus (HBV), which causes Hepatitis B, a serious liver disease; Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), which causes Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and other bloodborne pathogens. Based on a review of information in the rulemaking record, OSHA has made a determination that employees face a significant health risk as the result of occupational exposure to blood and other potentially infectious materials because they may contain pathogens. OSHA further concludes that this exposure can be minimized or eliminated using a combination of engineering and work practice controls, personal protective clothing and equipment, training, medical surveillance, Hepatitis B vaccination, signs and labels, and other provisions.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to develop and implement an exposure control plan to eliminate or minimize district occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens. The plan for designated employees shall include, but not be limited to, scope and application, definitions, exposure control, methods of compliance, Hepatitis B vaccination and post-exposure evaluation and follow-up, communication of hazards to employees, and recordkeeping.

Employees identified as having reasonably anticipated contact with blood or infectious materials shall receive the Hepatitis B vaccine or sign a written waiver stating that they will not take the vaccine.

Legal Reference: 29 C.F.R. Pt. 1910.1030 (1993).
Iowa Code §§20.9; 279.8 (2015).
281 I.A.C. 12.4(14); 43.15-.20.

Cross Reference: 403 General Personnel Health and Well-Being
403.3 Communicable Diseases - General Personnel

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