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Safety Policy Number: Z-1030

Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan

PURPOSE

To ensure safe working conditions and to comply with OSHA requirements 29 CFR 1910-1030, which applies to all occupational exposures to blood and other potentially infectious materials. (As Revised by OSHA: April 18, 2001)

POLICY

It is the policy of Loyola University Chicago that employees whose duties may result in occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens must be trained in the requirements of 29 CFR 1910.1030 at the time of their employment and prior to their initial job assignment. In addition, hepatitis B vaccinations are made available to those individuals who are exposed to bloodborne pathogens (BBP) in the course of their University duties. All University employees shall practice **universal precautions** to eliminate or minimize employee exposure to **blood** and **other potentially infectious materials**.

1. Definitions: (Reference 1910.1030(b))

Definitions For purposes of this section, the following shall apply:

Blood means human blood, human blood components, and products made from human blood.

Bloodborne Pathogens means 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) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

Clinical Laboratory means a workplace where diagnostic or other screening procedures are performed on blood or other potentially infectious materials.

Contaminated means the presence or the reasonably anticipated presence of blood or other potentially infectious materials on an item or surface.

Contaminated Laundry means laundry which has been soiled with blood or other potentially infectious materials or may contain sharps.

Contaminated Sharps means any contaminated object that can penetrate the skin including, but not limited to, needles, scalpels, broken glass, broken capillary tubes, and exposed ends of dental wires.

Decontamination means the use of physical or chemical means to remove, inactivate, or destroy bloodborne pathogens on a surface or item to the point where they are no longer capable of transmitting infectious particles and the surface or item is rendered safe for handling, use, or disposal.

Director means the Director of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, or designated representative.

Engineering Controls means controls (e.g., sharps disposal containers, self-sheathing needles, safer medical devices, such as sharps with engineered sharps injury protections and needle less systems) that isolate or remove the bloodborn

Regulated Waste means liquid or semi-liquid blood or other potentially infectious materials; contaminated items that would release blood or other potentially infectious materials in a liquid or semi-liquid state if compressed; items that are caked with dried blood or other potentially infectious materials and are capable of releasing these materials during handling; contaminated sharps; and pathological and microbiological wastes containing blood or other potentially infectious materials.

Research Laboratory means a laboratory producing or using research-laboratory-scale amounts of HIV or HBV. Research laboratories may produce high concentrations of HIV or HBV but not in the volume found in production facilities.

- Standard emergency medical services and first aid treatment used by health care providers, campus safety officers, child care center staff, athletic trainers, residence life staff and recreational sports center staff when providing emergency medical aid to persons under their care.
- Any law enforcement/security tasks relating to infectious materials exposure in the apprehension, custody, processing and transport of suspects and prisoners.
- Any routine maintenance or building service duties involving the clean up or other necessary handling of materials that exhibit the presence or the reasonably anticipated presence of blood or other potentially infectious materials on an item or surface.

3. Engineering & Work Practice Controls:

Engineering and work practice controls shall be used to eliminate or minimize employee exposure. Where occupational exposure remains after institution of these controls, personal protective equipment shall also be used. Engineering controls shall be examined and maintained or replaced on a regular schedule to ensure their effectiveness. The University provides handwashing facilities which are readily accessible to employees. When provision of handwashing facilities is not feasible, the employer shall provide either an appropriate antiseptic hand cleanser in conjunction with clean cloth/paper towels or antiseptic towelettes. When antiseptic hand cleansers or towelettes are used, hands shall be washed with soap and running water as soon as feasible.

The University provides for the issuance, through the individual departments, of any necessary personal protective equipment which includes, but is not limited to: gloves, face shields or eye protection, disposal materials and emergency medical masks and resuscitation equipment. At a minimum, "universal precaution concepts" as described in the act, shall be observed to prevent contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials. Accordingly, all body fluids shall be considered potentially infectious materials. All potentially infectious waste materials must be properly bagged and disposed.

4. Hepatitis B Vaccinations:

The University makes available at no cost to the employee, the Hepatitis B vaccine and vaccination series to all employees who are considered to have a high potential for occupational exposure, and post exposure evaluation and follow-up to all employees who have had an exposure incident. All current and new employees covered by this plan will have the this series of vaccinations made available within ten working (10) working days upon initial work assignment, unless the employee has previously received the complete Hepatitis B vaccination series, or antibody testing has revealed that the employee is immune, or the vaccine is contraindicated for medical reasons. It is the individual department's responsibility to arrange for a new employee's initial appointment with the appropriate Wellness Center for the vaccination series. The employee is then responsible for scheduling and meeting the additional appointments. The Wellness Center phone number is (773) 508-2530 and further information is available at: <http://www.luc.edu/wellness/>

Employees may decline to accept the Hepatitis B vaccination series, but must sign and file a statement of waiver with the Human Resources Department within 10 working days of their assignment to a potentially high-risk area. If an employee initially declines the Hepatitis B vaccination, but at a later date while working in a position covered by this policy decides to accept the vaccination, the University shall make available the Hepatitis vaccination at that time in accordance with the OSHA Regulations in effect at the time.

5. Exposure Incident Protocols:

All incidents of an actual or suspected exposure to human body fluids or other potentially infectious materials must be reported immediately to the employee's immediate supervisor.

8. Recordkeeping:

The Department of Human Resources shall maintain all Report of Injury forms for each employee with occupational exposure as required by OSHA 29 CFR 1910.130.

REFERENCES

U.S. Department of Labor OSHA Standards for General Industry:

OSHA has established the following standards for Bloodborne Pathogens

29 CFR 1910.130 (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h) and (i).

Attachments:

Hepatitis B Vaccine Declination Form

Hepatitis B Acceptance Form

Loyola University Chicago Report of Injury Form