

# OSHA INSERVICE

## Tuberculosis and Bloodborne Pathogens

### Tuberculosis

Airborne contagious disease caused by bacteria called “Mycobacterium tuberculosis”

### How it is spread:

- TB bacteria expelled into the air through coughing
- Close contacts can inhale the TB germ and may become infected

### TB Infection

- No symptoms of TB present
- NOT contagious
- Negative chest X-ray
- Skin test (PPD) positive (Means TB exposure occurred)

**Inactive TB germs can't hurt you**

### TB Disease

- Symptoms present: fever, night sweats, chronic cough, weight loss, fatigue, bloody sputum, loss of appetite
- Is contagious
- Chest X-ray - positive
- Sputum specimens positive for TB
- May have + PPD also



{Chest x-ray with cavity- like lesion in right upper lobe of lung

## **TB Prevention includes:**

1. Annual employee PPD skin test is used to detect TB infection
  - TB skin test must be read within 48-72 hrs. by Employee Health or nurse certified in reading PPD's.
  - If TB skin test is not read within 48-72 hrs, the employee will need to have the test repeated.
2. Evaluation and follow up for persons with positive PPD
3. Resident PPD testing on admission
4. Knowing and reporting TB disease symptoms promptly
5. Follow up testing of persons exposed to an individual with TB disease

## **The Blood Diseases:**

### **Hepatitis B**

### **Hepatitis C**

### **HIV**

#### **Hepatitis B**

- Acquired through blood, bites, body fluids (sexual contact)
- Symptoms may be absent
- 90% of infected people get better
- 10% may become permanent carriers
- FA employees who are at risk for exposures to blood are offered Hepatitis B vaccine.

#### **Hepatitis C**

- Acquired through blood, (sex, bites)
- Less than 20% get better
- Symptoms may be absent
- Most become carriers forever

## HIV/AIDS -

### Human Immunodeficiency Virus

- Acquired through blood, body fluids (sexual contact), mother to child in pregnancy/breast feeding
- Symptoms take years to show up
- All infected people carry the virus forever and can transmit it
- HIV blood test can detect infection within 6-12 weeks of getting the virus

### PA Law on HIV Confidentiality

- prevents unauthorized release of HIV related information
- Requires written consent for HIV testing
- Requires pre & post counseling for HIV testing

### How to Avoid Getting Blood Diseases in the Workplace

1. Treat ALL blood & body substances as infectious “Universal (standard) Precautions”.
  - We never need to know a resident’s diagnosis to protect ourselves against the HIV or Hepatitis viruses.
2. Careful handling of needles or razors
3. Protective attire as needed:
  - Gloves - body fluid contact
  - Gowns - to prevent splashes
  - Face/eye protection - if splashing is possible
4. Proper handling of bloody disposables
5. Handwashing
6. Hepatitis B Vaccine
7. Sharps Containers
  - Dispose of all needles & razors immediately into sharps containers.
  - Never overfill sharps containers.

## **What if you get an exposure to blood or body fluids?**

1. Wash the area with soap/water
2. If splash to eye, flush with water
3. Report exposure immediately
  - To Supervisor
  - To Medical Management (Employee Health) Department
4. Fill out Employee Incident Report

**\*\*Important \*\***

**REPORT ALL EXPOSURES !!**

## **Healthcare Worker Risk**

- Blood
- Bloody body fluids
- Exposures: Needle sticks from used needles, razors or scalpels, splashes to mucous membranes or non-intact skin, etc.

## TB AND BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS INSERVICE

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

1. TB is spread:
  - a. By inhaling the germ
  - b. By touching a contaminated surface
  - c. Through bacteria expelled into the air by coughing
  - d. A and C
  
2. (True or False) You can be infected with TB and not have the disease.  
True                      False
  
3. How often should you be tested for TB?
  - a. Every 6 months
  - b. Every 4 years.
  - c. Annually
  - d. Once
  
4. After the TB test is given when should it be read.
  - a. Within 48 to 72 hours
  - b. Within a week
  - c. It should be read the next day
  - d. None of the above
  
5. Which of the following are blood diseases? (Check all that apply)
  - a. Hepatitis B
  - b. TB
  - c. HIV
  - d. Hepatitis C
  
6. How long does it usually take to detect HIV in the blood?
  - a. It can take years.
  - b. 6 to 12 weeks.
  - c. 48 to 72 hours.
  - d. 6 months
  
7. (True or False) There are no laws preventing the release of HIV status without permission.  
True                      False

8. How should you treat all blood and body substances?
  - a. Use Universal Precautions
  - b. Call your supervisor to clean it up.
  - c. Clean it as you would any mess, the care plan does not mention any blood disease.
  - d. Contact the health department for instructions.
  
9. When should you report exposure to blood or body fluids?
  - a. Within a week.
  - b. Immediately
  - c. Within 24 hours.
  - d. Within 48 to 72 hours.
  
10. Which of the following are possible ways of exposure to bloodborne pathogens? (Check all that apply)
  - a. Needle sticks from used needles
  - b. Splashes to mucous membranes
  - c. Cleaning spills using Universal Precautions.
  - d. None of the above.