

## CONTAMINATED SURFACES

Contaminated environmental surfaces are a major mode of HBV spread in certain settings, particularly hospitals and blood banks that might have blood spills. HBV can survive on environmental surfaces dried and at room temperatures for at least one week. Surfaces and objects can be heavily contaminated by substances, such as blood serum or plasma, without visible signs.

*Only a person who has knowledge of applicable control practices shall be authorized to write and to review an exposure control plan*

## EXPOSURE CONTROL PLAN

Identification of employees covered by the standard (routine and reasonably anticipated tasks and procedures to determine whether there is actual or reasonably anticipated employee exposure to blood or other potentially infectious material) should be placed into category A or B as follows:

*Category A consists of occupations that*

*require procedures or other occupation-related tasks that involve exposure, or reasonably anticipated exposure, to blood or other potentially infectious material, or that involve a likelihood for spills or splashes of blood or other potentially infectious material.*

*Category B consists of occupations that do not require tasks that involve exposure to blood or other potentially infectious material on a routine or nonroutine basis as a condition of employment. Employees in occupations in this category do not perform or assist in emergency medical care or first aid and are not reasonably anticipated to be exposed in any other way.*

The control plan will list:

- Specific measures you and your facility must take to minimize your risk of exposure.
- Procedures to follow if there is an exposure incident.
- Sample incident/accident forms that should be filled out with directions for follow-up.

*The exposure plan must include the task-specific standard operating procedures (SOPs) that address the following:*

*Employee recognition of reasonably anticipated exposure to blood and other potentially infectious material.*

*Appropriate selection, use, maintenance, and disposal of personal protective equipment.*

*Contingency plans for foreseeable circumstances that prevent following the recommended SOPs.*

*SOPs shall address the management of inadvertent exposures such as needles or mucus membrane exposures.*

*The exposure control plan shall be reviewed annually and updated as necessary.*

*You can't identify every person who may transmit infection. Yet you can't afford not to take precautions since it takes just one exposure to become infected.*

*Universal precautions resolve this uncertainty by requiring you to treat all human blood and certain human body fluids as if they were known to be infected with HIV, HBV or other bloodborne pathogens.*



**BIOHAZARD**