

# Bloodborne Pathogens

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What are Bloodborne Pathogens?

- Bacteria
- Virus

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**Warning:**

Blood can also be found in other body fluids. As a result, bloodborne pathogens can be transmitted through contact with these fluids as well.

# Bloodborne Pathogens

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Two specific bloodborne pathogens are:

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

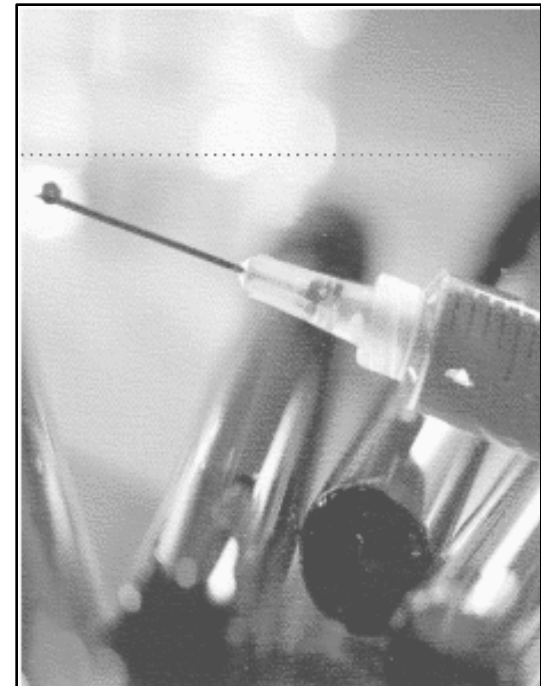
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# Bloodborne Pathogens

## Routes of Transmission

Bloodborne pathogens can be transmitted in the following ways:

- Injection
- Mucous membrane exposure
- Sexual Contact



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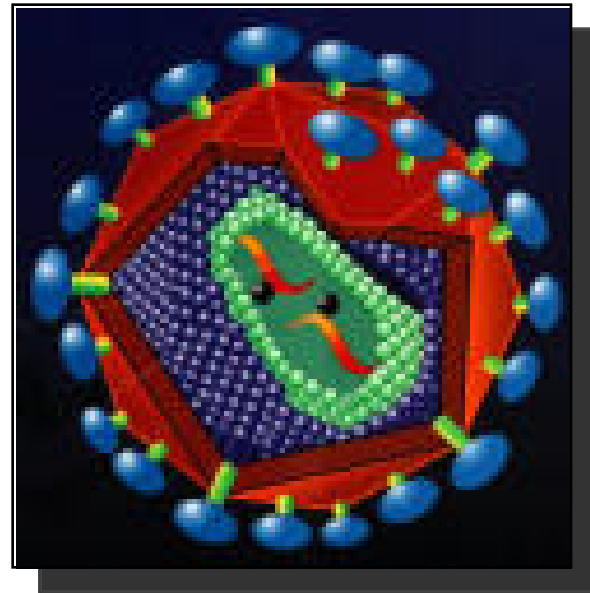
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Who Is At Risk?

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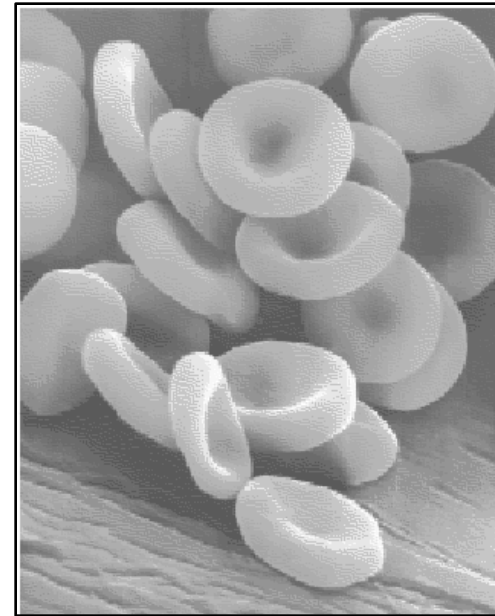
# Bloodborne Pathogens

## Reducing Risk

Both employees and employers need to work at reducing the risk of exposure to bloodborne pathogens.

To reduce your risk of exposure, you should:

- Know how bloodborne pathogens can affect you
- Know how you can become infected
- Know how to protect yourself



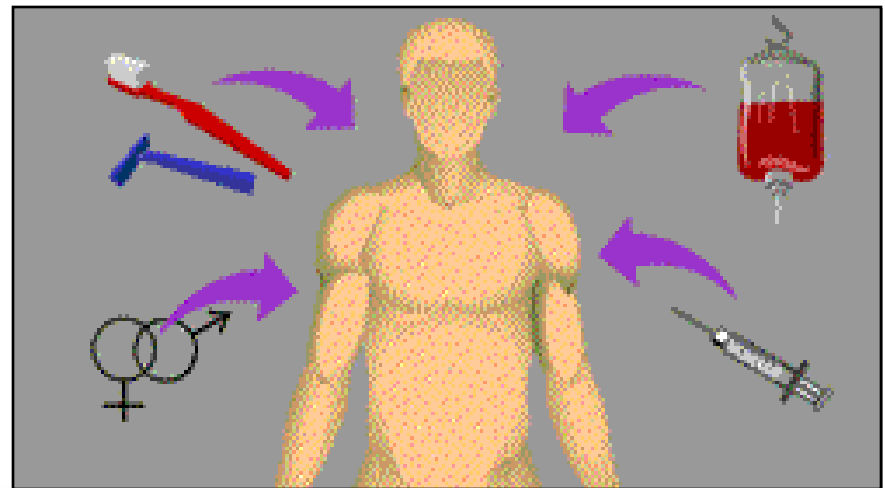
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# Bloodborne Pathogens

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### Universal Precautions

Your employer must reduce your risk of exposure through:

- Universal precautions
- Engineering controls
- Personal protective equipment
- Safe work practices



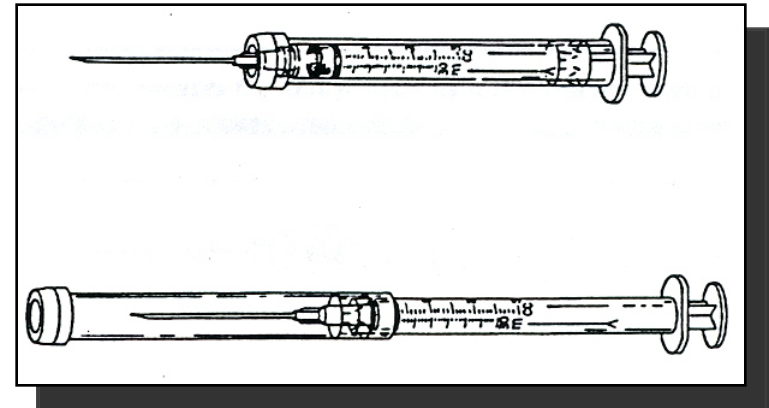
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### Engineering Controls

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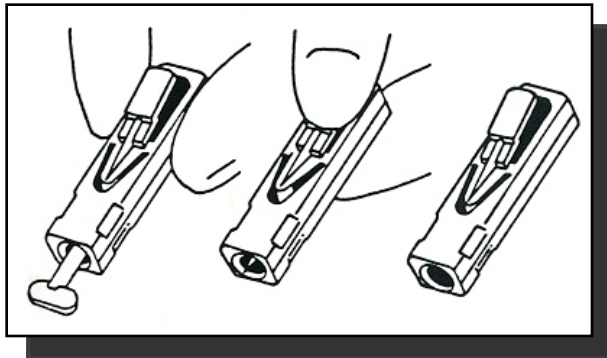


Hypodermic syringes with  
“Self-Sheathing” safety feature

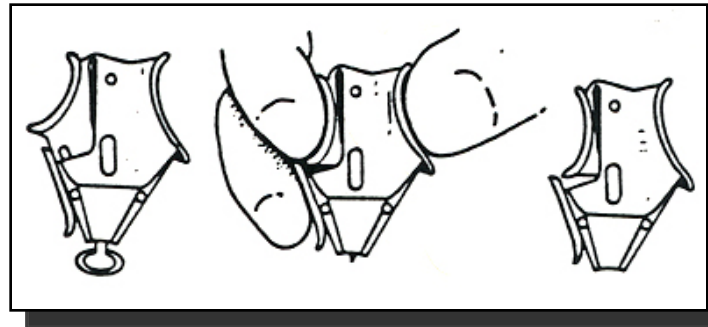
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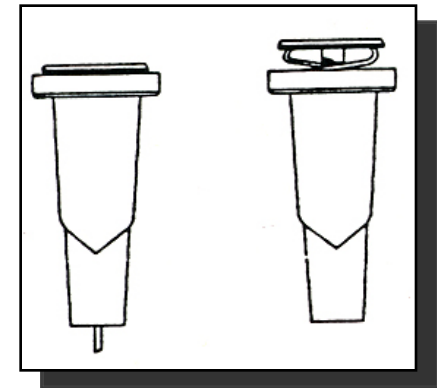
## Engineering Controls



Engineering Controls Example



Retracting lancets with safety features



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### Engineering Controls

A container especially designed to accept sharps should be available to safely dispose of any device that may have been exposed to or cause exposure to bloodborne pathogens



Sharps Disposal Container

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### Safe Work Practices

Your employer must reduce your risk of exposure through:

- Universal precautions
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- Personal protective equipment





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## Personal Protective Equipment

Your employer must reduce your risk of exposure through:

- Universal precautions
- Engineering controls
- Safe work practices
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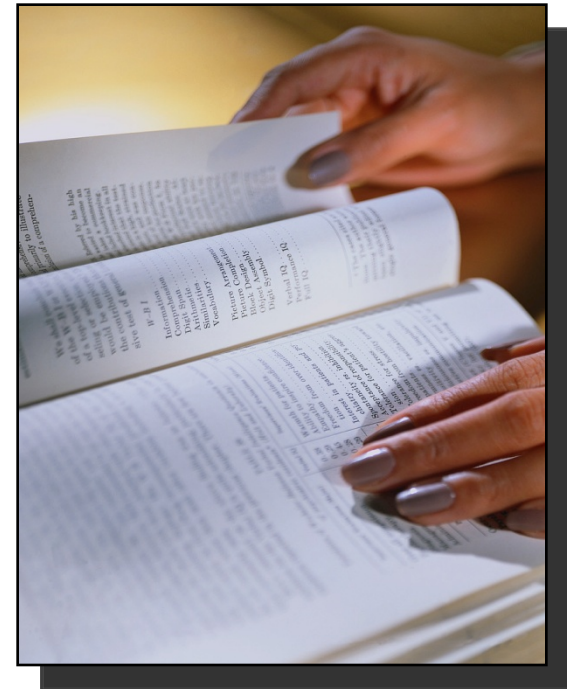
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## Bloodborne Pathogens

### Summary – Employer Requirements

OSHA requires your employer to:

- Establish a written program
- Develop engineering controls
- Provide personal protective equipment
- Offer Hepatitis B vaccines
- Establish post-exposure procedures
- Conduct training annually



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## Summary – Your Responsibilities

You can protect yourself by:

- Learning about the hazards of bloodborne pathogens
- Making sure you understand your job
- Knowing what to do if you are exposed
- Treating all body fluids as being infectious
- Following safe work and personal practices
- Wearing the appropriate PPE