

WEEKLY SAFETY MEETING

FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

SAFETY MEETING OUTLINES

Box 700, Frankfort, IL 60423

815-464-0200

No. 47

Vol. 21

Week of 11/20/2023

Company Name _____ Job Name _____ Date _____

BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

Working in construction provides you with many different challenges and exposes you to many different hazards. Today's safety meeting addresses some hidden threats you may face if you need to administer first aid. We will also address some steps you can take to protect yourself. Contact with blood or other body fluids may expose you to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or the hepatitis B virus (HBV). Both of these viruses can lead to your death. You can protect yourself from infection by following a set of guidelines commonly referred to as universal precautions. These universal precautions include:

- Treating blood and all body fluids as potentially infectious.
- Wearing appropriate personal protective equipment, such as gloves, face masks, and eye protection.
- Using resuscitation bags or one-way masks.
- Washing your hands and other skin surfaces after contact with blood and body fluids.
- Being careful with sharp edges that may be contaminated with blood and body fluids.
- Cleaning up blood and all body fluids promptly and properly.

HIV is transmitted primarily through sexual contact, but may also be transmitted through contact with blood and certain body fluids. HIV attacks your immune system, weakening your body's defenses to the point that even a simple cold can be fatal. HBV is a virus which causes liver disease. It may lead to life-threatening diseases such as cirrhosis and cancer. There are over 55,000 people infected with HIV and as many as 320,000 people infected with HBV annually.

What does this have to do with you as a construction worker? If a co-worker or friend has an accident, it's human nature to stop what you're doing and go to see if you can help. That's good, but remember that helping the victim may expose you to HIV or HBV, so be sure to follow universal precautions. You need to be prepared if an accident occurs. All first aid kits on site should be stocked with latex gloves and one-way masks. Check to make sure that these items are available. You may also wish to keep them in the first aid kits you have at home and carry in your car or truck.

SAFETY REMINDER

**Never wash and re-use disposable gloves.
Dispose of them and other contaminated items properly.**

Special Topics For Your Project _____

Employee Safety Recommendations _____

Reviewed MSDS # _____ Subject _____

Meeting Attended By _____

Supervisor's Signature _____