

Infection Control

A. Infection Control Orientation

- General Infection Control Practices
- HIV Confidentiality
- Blood Borne Pathogen Standard
- Tuberculosis Control

B. General Infection Control Practices

- Hand washing
- Standard precautions
- Isolation precautions
- Disease Specific Precautions

C. HIV Confidentiality Law

What does the law provide for?

- Informed consent for HIV testing and pre and post-test counseling for any HIV related testing.
- Limits disclosure of HIV related information.

Why was it necessary?

- To encourage voluntary HIV testing.
- To protect tested individuals from possible discrimination.

D. Standard Precautions

Practice standard (universal) precautions – treat all patients as if potentially infectious.

E. Blood-Borne Pathogen Standard

The blood-borne pathogen standard was established to protect health care workers. It was developed to make health care workers aware of the risks of getting hepatitis and AIDS at work and to promote safe work practices that prevent the spread of these blood-borne viruses.

Needle Sticks and Body Fluid Exposures

F. What is the Risk?

- Hepatitis B: 30%
- Hepatitis C: 3%
- Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV): 0.3%

What should you do if you have an exposure to a patient's blood or body fluid? Wash or rinse the area well. Contact Infection Control to report the injury Monday-Friday from 8am to 4pm. At all other times, including weekends and holidays, report to the Emergency Room. Recommendations for treatment and follow up will be discussed with you. Complete an Injury Report Form.

G. Prevent Needle Sticks and Body Fluid Exposures with the following Actions:

1. Do not recap, bend, break or manipulate used needles.
2. Dispose sharps at the location used in designated disposal containers.
3. Replace sharps containers when nearly full, do not overfill them.
4. Use the safety products available for intravenous access, venous and arterial blood sampling and bedside blood glucose monitoring.
5. Obtain assistance to steady anxious or confused patients while starting infusions, administering injections, etc.
6. Separate sharps from drapes, towels and other materials during procedures.
7. Use tongs or forceps to remove drapes and towels from procedure trays during cleanups.
8. Don't compact trash with your hands or feet.
9. Carry trash bags away from body by grasping the top.
10. Follow Standard Precautions, protect yourself, and set a good example.

H. Tuberculosis Control

What is it?

TB is a “communicable” disease caused by bacteria (germs) that spread from person to person through the air.

How is it spread?

TB is spread by inhaling TB bacteria in the air. These bacteria can be put in the air by coughing and sneezing.

Tuberculosis Control Measures

- Policies to ensure the rapid identification, isolation, diagnosis and treatment of those likely to have TB.
- Effective work practices such as wearing respiratory protection properly.
- Educating, training and counseling health care workers (HCW) about TB.
- Screen HCW for TB infection and disease.

Locate the Infection Control Manual Online:

Go to <http://www.upstate.edu> --> Health Care Providers --> UH Policies and Procedures --> UH Policies and Procedures Manual --> Infection Control Manual