

Bloodborne pathogens may not be a hazard that we face every day in our work environment, but it is important that we are aware of these hazards and know what to do if we are faced with them.

Bloodborne pathogens may be transmitted when blood or other infectious body fluids come in contact with our mucous membranes (eyes, nose, mouth), non-intact skin (due to cuts, abrasions, burns, rashes, paper cuts), or by handling or touching contaminated materials or surfaces. They can also be transmitted by "injection" under the skin via a contaminated sharp object puncturing or cutting the skin therefore causing a wound.

Individuals who are infected with Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C or HIV may not show symptoms and may not know they are infectious. For this reason, all blood and body fluids should be considered as infectious, and all precautions should be taken to avoid contact. To reduce your risk of infection, remember this rule, "Protect Yourself First, Treat Victim Second."

Using the idea of "Protect Yourself First. Treat Victim Second" will reduce your risk of infection. To do that we have Bloodborne Pathogen kits in every gang box and inside that kit is a pair of exam quality vinyl gloves, an eye shield with ear loop mask, a disposable gown with full sleeves, a disposable head bonnet, disposable shoe covers, antiseptic towelettes, a red biohazard bag with a closure tie and a CPR kit. These barrier devices greatly reduce the risk of exposure to potentially infection materials.

Here are some things to remember when responding to injuries:

- If a coworker has a minor accident that causes bleeding, try to have them bandage their own wounds, until you have put on the appropriate PPE.
- If the injury is serious, call emergency services or 911.
- If you don't have time to wait for the emergency services, make sure you take universal precautions and protect yourself first by treating all bodily fluids as infectious.
- Remove gloves and other protective equipment in manner that prevents exposure.
- Place all contaminated items in appropriately marked bags or containers.
- Give all contaminated bags and containers to emergency crews or clinic staff for proper disposal.
- If you have been exposed to a victim's bodily fluid, wash the affected area thoroughly with soap and water. Contact a medical professional and report the incident to the safety department immediately.

Remember This!

PROTECT YOURSELF FIRST. TREAT VICTIM SECOND.





Tool Box Talk/Safety Meeting Sign In Sheet

Email to chris@hudsonbayins.com or safety@hudsonbayins.com or text to (206) 730-6273

Topic: _____ Date: _____

Discussion Leader: _____ Job Name: _____

	Employee Name	Employee Signature
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Employee Comments, Concerns, Suggestions or Recommendations to improve workplace safety & health:

Please submit this document immediately upon completion of the meeting to the safety department and retain the original copy of this document in the Safety & Risk Management Plan.