

Exposure Control Plan (ECP) for Bloodborne Pathogens

Purpose

outlined in sections VI.

Methods of Implementation and Control

Universal Precautions

All employees will utilize universal precautions.

Exposure Control Plan

Employees covered by the bloodborne pathogens standard receive an explanation of this ECP during their initial training session. It will also be reviewed in their annual refresher training. All employees have an opportunity to review this plan at any time during their work shifts by contacting Virginia Newman, at the Health Center. If requested, Fort Lewis College will provide an employee with a copy of the ECP free of charge and within 15 days of the request.

Virginia Newman is responsible for reviewing and updating the ECP annually or more frequently if necessary to reflect any new or modified tasks and procedures that affect occupational exposure and to reflect new or revised employee positions with occupational exposure. The review and update of such plans must also:

- Reflect changes in technology that eliminate or reduce exposure to bloodborne pathogens;
- and
- Document annually consideration and implementation of appropriate commercially available and effective safer medical devices designed to eliminate or minimize occupational exposure.

The following lists the safer devices Virginia Newman has identified as possible additions in our last annual review, which took place, August 18, 2008:

Device:

Methods used to evaluate device:

Decision whether or not to implement:

Justification for decision:

Student Health Services solicits input from non-managerial employees responsible for direct patient care in the identification, evaluation, and selection of effective engineering and work practice controls. Only those employees responsible for direct patient care who are potentially exposed to injuries from contaminated sharps need be contacted. Our solicitation method involves the following: employee suggestions, vendor presentations, professional association recommendations and informal discussions with peers. Virginia Newman documents all solicitation in the ECP.

The following lists the engineering and work practice controls identified during solicitation in our last annual review:

Engineering or work practice control:

Employee solicited:

Decision whether or not to implement:

Engineering and Work Practice Controls

Engineering and work practice controls will be used to prevent or minimize exposure to bloodborne pathogens. The specific engineering controls and work practice controls used are listed below:

Retractable needles

Sharps disposal containers are inspected and maintained or replaced by staff in either the Health Center or Athletic Training Room as needed to prevent overfilling. The Health Center will contract with a medical waste disposal company to dispose of the waste.

This facility identifies the need for changes in engineering control and work practices through the Health Center. The new procedures or new products will be evaluated by the Health Center staff and /or Health and Safety Committee and implemented as appropriate.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

PPE is provided to our employees at no cost to them. Training is provided by Health Center staff in the use of the appropriate PPE for the tasks or procedures employees will perform.

The types of PPE available to employees are as follows: latex gloves, face shield, disposable respiratory protection and clothing, if needed. PPE is located in various laboratories, Athletic Training facility and the Health Center.

All employees using PPE must observe the following precautions:

- Mandatory use of PPE if potentially infectious materials are encountered

- Use only PPE that is properly fitted

- Use double gloves as needed

- Employees who are allergic or sensitive to latex will be provided hypo-allergenic gloves, or powder less gloves.

The procedure for handling used PPE is as follows:

- Remove all PPE and place it in a designated container.

- Dispose of contaminated PPE in red-colored bags

- Wash thoroughly after disposing of contaminated PPE

Housekeeping

Regulated waste is placed in containers that are closable, constructed to contain all contents and prevent leakage, appropriately labeled or red color-coded, and closed prior to removal to prevent spillage or protrusion of contents during handling.

The procedure for handling sharps disposal containers is: contaminated sharps are discarded immediately or as soon as possible in containers that are closable, puncture-resistant, leak proof on sides and bottoms, and labeled or red color-coded appropriately.

The procedure for handling other regulated waste is: place in the designated containers.

Broken glassware that may be contaminated is picked up using mechanical means, such as a brush and dust pan.

Labels

Labels and other warnings will be affixed to contaminated materials to warn others. Each department is responsible for ensuring labels are attached to materials or containers.

Hepatitis B Vaccination

Compensation. It is very important that an employee with a Bloodborne Pathogen exposure be seen the day of the incident.

Administration of Post-Exposure Evaluation and Follow-up

The Health Center ensures that health care professional(s) responsible for employee's hepatitis B vaccination and post-exposure evaluation and follow-up are given a copy of this procedure. Following an employee report of a possible exposure incident, the Health Center will:

- Immediately make available to the employee a confidential medical evaluation by a designated Health Care Professional
- Prepare a confidential comprehensive follow-up reporting the exposure incident.
- Provides the employee with a copy of the evaluating health care professional's written opinion within 15 days after completion of the evaluation.

Procedures for Evaluating the Circumstances Surrounding an Exposure Incident

The department in which the potential exposure occurred will review the circumstances of all exposure incidents to determine if revisions need to be made, and will communicate these findings to the Director of the Health Center. The directors will ensure that appropriate changes are made to this ECP.

Employee Training

All employees who have occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens receive training

Hepatitis B Vaccine Declination (Mandatory)

I understand that due to my occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials I may be at risk of acquiring hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection. I have been given the opportunity to be vaccinated with hepatitis B vaccine, at no charge to myself. However, I decline hepatitis B vaccination at this time. I understand that by declining this vaccine, I continue to be at risk of acquiring hepatitis B, a serious disease. If in the future I continue to have occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials and I want to be vaccinated with hepatitis B vaccine, I can receive the vaccination series at no charge to me.

Signed: _____ (*employee signature*)

Date: _____