

# Infection Control

## Pathogen Primer

### Bloodborne Pathogens

#### Bloodborne pathogens explained

A bloodborne pathogen refers to a germ that is spread through contact with contaminated blood and other body fluids. The most common bloodborne pathogens are HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis B (HBV) and Hepatitis C (HCV). Workers in hospitals, dentist offices, schools, and other facilities where contact with another person's blood is possible can be exposed to these life-threatening illnesses every day.

#### How bloodborne pathogens are spread

Workers exposed to bloodborne pathogens can acquire an infection when a contaminated body fluid, such as blood, semen, or saliva enters their body. This point of entry can be through an open cut or wound or a mucous membrane, such as in the eyes or mouth.

#### OSHA Safety Standard

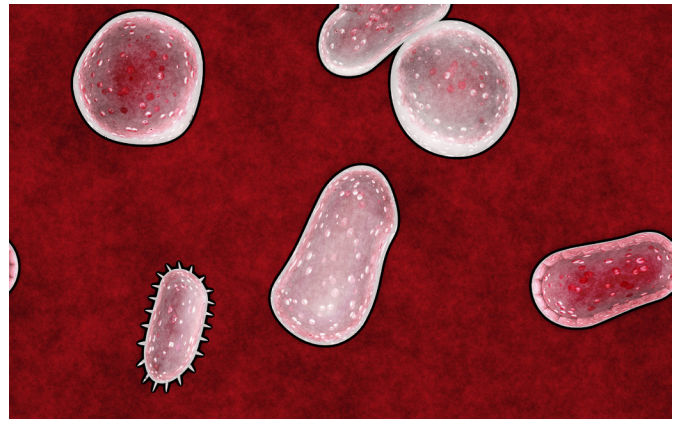
OSHA's bloodborne pathogen standard protects workers who may come into contact with blood or body fluids in an occupational setting. This includes procedures for handling and disposing of blood samples, personal protective equipment, and employee vaccinations. More information about OSHA's bloodborne pathogen standard.

#### Prevention

While personal protective equipment and careful handling procedures are essential for the safety of the occupationally exposed, bloodborne pathogens can survive outside the body for up to 7 days. Therefore, regular cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces is a critical part of preventing infection. Any blood or other body fluid spills should be cleaned with a disinfectant with bloodborne pathogen claims. More information about HBV, HCV, and HIV

#### Multi-Clean Disinfectant Products

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- Century Q Wipes
- 256 Century Q
- 128 E-Fecticide
- Chlorinated Tablets
- Microcide TB



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