

# Infection Control

## Pathogen Primer

### Hepatitis B

#### Hepatitis B explained

Hepatitis B is liver disease, or more appropriately the inflammation of the liver, that is caused by a virus in humans.

#### How you get sick from Hepatitis B

Hepatitis B is contagious and can be transmitted at birth, through sexual intercourse, sharing needles, and direct contact with blood, semen, or open sores of an infected person.

#### Information about Hepatitis B

- Unlike Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B can develop into a chronic liver disease.
- A person can become immune to Hepatitis B after contracting it, if that person has a full recovery from virus.
- About 800,000 to 1.4 million people in the United States and 350 million people worldwide have chronic Hepatitis B.

#### Other Information

Before Congress passed the Needlestick Safety and Prevention Act in 2000, approximately 30 needlestick incidents occurred per 100 beds annually. This act, along with OSHA's Bloodborne Pathogen Standard created in 1991, developed engineering and pathogen standards that created engineering controls and compliance in order to improved needlestick protection for workers who are in occupational care.

**Infection Control Strategies:** Early vaccination, frequent hand washing, proper sanitation of surfaces, and proper handling and cooking of foods.

More info on the CDC Hepatitis B Webpage.

#### Multi-Clean Disinfectant Products

- Millennium Q 64
- Century Q Wipes
- Century Q 256
- Microcide TB
- Chlorinated Tablets
- E-Fecticide 128

