



Infectious Diseases - Standard Precautions and Bloodborne Pathogens

- A. Medical histories and examinations cannot reliably identify all people with Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) or bloodborne pathogens. Therefore, standard precautions will be used consistently for all people.
- B. This approach, recommended by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and known as *Standard Precautions*, is especially important during emergency medical care because of the increased risk of blood and body-fluid exposure.
- C. Summarized, the principles of *Standard Precautions* are:
 - 1. All staff who could potentially be in contact with blood and other potentially infectious material while performing their jobs, especially Health Care Personnel (HCP), will routinely use barrier precautions to protect skin and mucous membranes. This includes the regular use of gloves, face masks, face shields eyewear, and gowns or aprons as needed. Disposables must be used, as much as possible, and discarded in an approved manner after each use.
 - 2. Hand and other skin surfaces must be immediately and thoroughly washed if contaminated with blood and body fluids. Hands must be washed immediately after gloves are removed.
 - 3. All staff will take diligent precautions to prevent injuries caused by needles, scalpels, and other "sharps" they may encounter.
 - 4. Mouthpieces, resuscitation bags, or other ventilation devices will be made available to minimize the need for mouth-to-mouth resuscitation in areas where the need for cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) can be predicted.
 - 5. Staff who have open cuts or weeping skin lesions must refrain from direct inmate and CCAP probationer/parolee contact and refrain from handling inmate and CCAP probationer/parolee food, personal belongings, and care equipment until the condition has resolved. The only exception is if the cuts or weeping skin lesions are covered.
 - 6. Pregnant individuals are not known to be at greater risk for occupational-related transmission of infectious disease than non-pregnant individuals. However, because of the high risk of perinatal transmission of certain infectious diseases to the infant, pregnant individuals should be familiar with *Standard Precautions* and rigidly adhere to them.
 - 7. Other isolation procedures will be used as indicated if associated conditions, such as infectious diarrhea or tuberculosis, are suspected or diagnosed.

