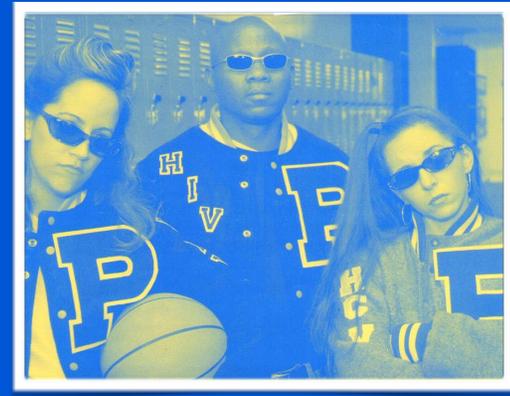


Bloodborne Pathogens

FAST FACTS FOR SCHOOLS



Today's teachers and education workers need to be aware of their risks of exposure to bloodborne pathogens (BBPs). BBPs are disease-causing organisms found in the blood and certain body fluids of infected people. If your job carries any risk of exposure to BBPs, it's important to know about them and how to stay safe.

In today's working world, approximately 5.6 million workers are at risk for exposure to BBPs. Of those 5.6 million, many are healthcare workers and public safety officials. Another large group at risk to exposure are teachers and educational workers.

While most students are innocent enough on the outside, some could be unknowingly harboring a potentially deadly disease. Your possible exposure to these bloodborne pathogens could prove hazardous if not fatal.

Even if your job at Taylor I.S.D. may carry a minimal risk, it is important for you to be reminded about BBPs and how to stay safe. So, let's review these Fast Facts. These Fast Facts will remind you of what a bloodborne pathogen is, how you can be exposed and ways to prevent or minimize your exposure.

FAST FACT #1 Definition

Bloodborne pathogens are disease-causing organisms found in the blood and certain body fluids of an infected person.

FAST FACT#2 The Usual Suspects

There are three BBPs you need to be aware of when dealing with blood and other bodily fluids: Human Immunodeficiency Virus or HIV, Hepatitis B Virus or HBV and Hepatitis C Virus or HCV.

FAST FACT #3 Doorways

To get through your skin, the virus needs a doorway into the body such as a cut, scratch or sexual transmission.

FAST FACT#4 Everyone has a BBP!

Not really, but standard precautions require you to consider every person a possible carrier of a BBP and to treat his or her body fluids as if they were infected.

FAST FACT #5 Bleeding Emergency

Protect yourself! Your first instinct may be to rush to the injured person, but taking a few extra seconds to put on gloves can prevent infection.

FAST FACT#6 Resuscitation

If you need to give mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, protect yourself by using a mechanical respirator or pocket mask.

FAST FACT #7 Wardrobe Malfunctions

At any time, if your protective equipment is penetrated by blood, remove the item and replace it immediately.

FAST FACT#8 Cleanup

Never use just your hands to clean up blood, sharp objects or glass. Protect yourself! Use a broom and dustpan for sharp objects. Use gloves, paper towels or disposable materials to clean body fluids or blood.