



Section: Medical Exposure Control Plan - General
Subject: EXPOSURE DETERMINATION AND DEFINITIONS
Section #: 380.02
Issue Date: March 21, 2011
Revision Date:
Approved By: 

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1. The following is a list of Hillsborough County Fire Rescue positions and job classifications in which persons holding these positions may *routinely* have contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials, without regard to the use of personal protective equipment.
 - a. Battalion Chief
 - b. Fire Company Captain
 - c. Fire Medic III / IV
 - d. Rescue Lieutenant
 - e. Driver Engineer
 - f. Fire Medic I
 - g. Firefighter
 - h. Rescue Paramedic
 - i. Fire Medic Trainee
 - j. Training Officer
 - k. Manager of Vehicle Maintenance & Supply
 - l. Property Control Clerk
 - m. Supply Clerk
 - n. Auto Technician (courier)
 - o. Any volunteer member serving in the Suppression Division
2. The following is a list of Hillsborough County Fire Rescue positions and job classifications in which persons holding these positions may *occasionally* have contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials, without regard to the use of personal protective equipment.
 - a. Fire Chief
 - b. Assistant Fire Chief
 - c. Division Chief
 - d. Section Chief / Manager
 - i. Administrative Staff, Receptionist, Secretaries
 - j. Vehicle Maintenance Personnel
 - k. Groundskeeper
3. The following is a list of task and procedures, or groups of related tasks and procedures, performed by members of Hillsborough County Fire Rescue in which occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious material occurs without regard to the use of personal protective equipment.
 - a. Emergency pre-hospital care procedures performed on medical and traumatized patients including the following:
 - i. Patient assessment and examinations.
 - ii. Vascular access, obtaining blood samples, and administration of medications.
 - iii. Airway control, suctioning, chest decompression, and ventilations.
 - iv. Hemorrhage control, bandage, splinting, fracture stabilization, and application of spinal motion restriction precautions.
 - v. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
 - vi. Childbirth and neonatal resuscitation.
 - b. Cleaning, general maintenance, and disposal task or procedures include the following:
 - i. Cleaning of equipment, medical supplies, non-disposable equipment, and interior areas of vehicles.
 - ii. Handling and disposal of laundry, sharps containers, and contaminated medical supplies.
 - iii. Handling and decontamination of extrication equipment.
 - iv. Decontamination of uniforms and / or bunker gear.
4. Hillsborough County Fire Rescue recognizes the definition of body fluids as per State of Florida Department of Health F.A.C. 64E-16.002(4):
 - a. Body fluids - Those fluids which have the potential to harbor pathogens, such human immunodeficiency virus and hepatitis B virus and include blood, blood products, lymph, semen, vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal, synovial, pleural, peritoneal, pericardial, and amniotic fluids.
 - b. Body excretions – feces, nasal discharges, saliva, sputum, sweat, tears, urine, and vomitus.

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5. Hillsborough County Fire Rescue recognizes the definition of contaminated sharps as per 29 CFR 1910.1030 (z):
 - a. Contaminated sharps means any contaminated object that can penetrate the skin including, but not limited to needles, scalpels, broken glass, broken capillary tubes, and exposed ends of dental wires.
6. Other terms & definitions that relate to Infection Control:
 - a. *Blood* – human blood, human blood components, and products made from human blood.
 - b. *Bloodborne Pathogens* – pathogenic microorganisms that are present in human blood and can cause disease in humans. These pathogens include, but are not limited to, HBV and HIV.
 - c. *Contaminated* – the presence or the reasonably anticipated presence of blood or other potentially infectious materials on an item or surface.
 - d. *Contaminated Laundry* – laundry (sheets, pillowcases, blankets, towels, etc...) which have been soiled with blood or other potentially infectious materials.
 - e. *Contaminated Medical Supplies and Rescue Equipment* – supplies and equipment used to treat patients, which have become soiled with blood or other potentially infectious materials.
 - f. *Contaminated Sharps* – any contaminated object that is capable of penetrating the skin.
 - g. *Decontaminate* – the use of physical or chemical means to remove, inactivate, or destroy bloodborne pathogens or other potentially infectious materials on a surface or item to the point where they are no longer capable of transmitting infectious particles and the surface or item is rendered safe for handling, use, or disposal.
 - h. *Engineering Controls* – are those controls which isolate or remove the bloodborne pathogens hazard from the workplace.
 - i. *Exposure Incident* – a specific eye, mouth, other mucous membrane, non-intact skin, or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials that results from the performance of a member's duties.
 - j. *HBV* – Hepatitis B virus.
 - k. *HIV* – Human Immunodeficiency virus.
 - l. *Occupational Exposure* – reasonably anticipated skin, eye, mucous membrane, or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials that may result from the performance of a member's duties.
 - m. *Other Potentially Infectious Materials* – semen, vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluid, synovial fluid, pleural fluid, pericardial fluid, peritoneal fluid, amniotic fluid, saliva, any body fluid that is visibly contaminated with blood, and all body fluids in situations where it is difficult or impossible to differentiate between body fluids; and any unfixed tissue or organ (other than intact skin) from a human (living or dead).
 - n. *Parenteral* – piercing mucous membranes or the skin barriers through such events as punctures, human bites, lacerations, and abrasions.
 - o. *Personal Protective Equipment* – specialized clothing or equipment worn or used by a member for protection against a hazard.
 - i. Note: General work clothing (i.e. uniforms, pants, shirts, or blouses), not intended to function as protection against a hazard, are not considered to be personal protective equipment.

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- p. *Regulated Waste* – liquid or semi-liquid blood or other potentially infectious materials; contaminated items that would release blood or other potentially infectious materials in a liquid or semi-liquid state if compressed; items that are caked with dried blood or other potentially infectious materials and are capable of releasing these materials during handling; contaminated sharps; used medical supplies; and wastes containing blood or other potentially infectious materials.
- q. *Source Individual* – any person, living or dead, whose blood or other potentially infectious materials may be a source of occupational exposure to the member.
- r. *Sterilize* – the use of a physical or chemical procedure to destroy all microbial life.
- s. *Universal Precautions* – an approach to infection control in which all human blood and body fluids are treated as if known to be infectious for HBV, HIV, or other bloodborne pathogens.
- t. *Work Practice Controls* – controls that reduce the likelihood of member exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials by altering the manner in which a task is performed.