

**AIKEN TECHNICAL COLLEGE
PROCEDURE**

Procedure Title:	SAFETY PROGRAM-BLOODBORNE PATHOGEN EXPOSURE CONTROL	Procedure Number:	2-3-104.3
Institutional Authority:	Chief Business Officer		
Associated SBTCE Policy/Procedure:			
Governing ATC Policy:			

Approved:


President


Chief Business Officer

Date

Adopted: 11/10/2008

Date

Revised: 12/13/2021

DISCLAIMER

PURSUANT TO SECTION 41-1-110 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SC, AS AMENDED, THE LANGUAGE USED IN THIS DOCUMENT DOES NOT CREATE AN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT BETWEEN THE EMPLOYEE AND THE AGENCY.

Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan

Introduction

Aiken Technical College (ATC) is committed to providing a safe work and learning environment for faculty, staff, and students. It is recognized that while performing some job-related procedures and other essential academic activities contact with blood and Other Potentially Infectious Materials (OPIM) may occur. This document is designed to give those individuals who have the potential to come into contact with bloodborne pathogens or OPIM guidelines on how to prevent and react to an exposure.

General Information

Bloodborne pathogens are disease-causing microorganisms that may be present in human blood and other body fluids. The three most commonly encountered bloodborne pathogens are hepatitis B virus (HBV), hepatitis C (HCV), and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

Bloodborne pathogens are transmitted when the pathogens from infectious body fluids enter the bloodstream through cuts or other breaks in the skin. They can also enter through mucus membranes. Bloodborne pathogens are not transmitted by casual contact.

Exposure Control Plan

1. Universal Precautions

ATC applies a "Universal Precautions" approach to infection control. All human blood and body fluids are to be treated as if they are known to be infectious with bloodborne pathogens or OPIM.

2. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Universal precautions require that PPE be used where exposure to bloodborne pathogens or OPIM is possible. PPE may include but is not limited to gloves, gowns, lab coats, face shields or masks, and eye protection. PPE will be considered appropriate only if it prevents penetration of blood or OPIM to the clothes or body.

In the event of an exposure the following procedures should be followed:

- Do not handle broken glass, needles, razor blades, or other sharp objects with your hands. Use mechanical means such as a dustpan and broom.
- Wash hands immediately after removing gloves or contact with blood or OPIM.
- Watch for sharp objects, broken glassware, and used syringes when emptying trash. Wear leather gloves when appropriate.

3. Exposure Incidents

In the event of an exposure the following procedures should be followed:

- Immediately wash or rinse the exposed area for 10 to 15 minutes
- Immediately following washing, seek medical attention.
- Notify your supervisor as soon as possible and provide detailed information about the incident.
- The employee will be offered post-exposure prophylaxis in accordance with the current recommendations of the U.S. Public Health Service.
- The Human Resources Department and the Safety and Security Department must be immediately notified in the event of a bloodborne pathogen or OPIM exposure incident.
- Clean and decontaminate equipment and surface that had contact with infectious materials with a solution of one and a half cups bleach to one gallon of water (one-part bleach to 10 parts water).