

This policy has been adopted by UNC Hospitals for its use in infection control. It is provided to you as information only.

Attachment 1: Definitions

Term	Definition
Blood	Human blood, human blood components, and products made from human blood.
Bloodborne Pathogens	Pathogenic microorganisms that are present in human blood or other potentially infectious materials (OPIM) and can cause disease in humans. These pathogens include, but are not limited to, hepatitis B virus (HBV), hepatitis C virus (HCV), human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and syphilis.
Contaminated	The presence or the reasonably anticipated presence of blood or other potentially infectious materials on an item or surface.
Contaminated Laundry	Laundry wet or soiled with blood or other potentially infectious materials and presents a reasonable likelihood of soak through or leakage from the bag or contains laundry, which may contain sharps.
Contract Employees	Any employee who is not paid by UNC Health and is not a University employee.
Decontamination	The use of physical or chemical decontamination means to remove, inactivate, or destroy bloodborne pathogens on a surface or item.
Engineering Controls	Controls (e.g., sharps disposal containers, self-sheathing needles, and safer medical devices, such as sharps with engineered sharps injury protectors and needleless systems) that isolate or remove the bloodborne pathogens hazard from the workplace.
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 an employee's duties.
Needleless System	A device that does not use needles for: 1) collection of bodily fluids or withdrawal of body fluids after initial venous or arterial access is established; 2) the administration of medication or fluids or 3) any other procedure involving the potential for occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens due to percutaneous injuries from contaminated sharps.
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 an employee's duties. This definition excludes incidental exposures that may take place on the job, and that are neither reasonably nor routinely expected and that healthcare personnel is not required to incur in the normal course of employment.
Other Potentially Infectious Materials (OPIM)	(1) The following body fluids: semen, vaginal secretions synovial fluid, cerebrospinal fluid, pleural fluid, pericardial fluid, peritoneal fluid, amniotic fluid, saliva in dental procedures, any bodily fluid that is visibly contaminated with blood, and all body fluids in situations where it is difficult or impossible to differentiate between body fluids. (2) Any unfixed tissue or organ (other than intact skin) from a human (living or dead); and (3) HIV, HBV or HCV containing cell or tissue cultures, organ cultures, and HIV, HBV, or HCV containing culture medium or other solutions; and blood, organs or other tissues from experimental animals infected with HIV, HBV, or HCV.

Exposure Control Plan for Bloodborne Pathogens

Parenteral	Piercing mucous membranes or the skin barrier through such events as needlesticks, human bites, cuts, and abrasions.
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	Specialized clothing or equipment worn by an employee for protection against a hazard.
Regulated Medical Waste	Infectious waste (microbiological, pathological, and blood products) that is to be disposed of according to rules established by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Waste Management- Solid Waste Section.
Sharp with Engineered Safety Device	A non-needle sharp or a needle device used for withdrawing body fluids, accessing a vein or artery, or administering medications or other fluids, with a built-in safety feature or mechanism that effectively reduces the risk of an exposure incident.
Source Individual	Any individual, living or dead, whose blood or other potentially infectious materials may be a source of occupational exposure to the employee. Examples include, but are not limited to, hospital and clinic patients; clients in institutions for the developmentally disabled; trauma victims; clients of drug and alcohol treatment facilities; residents of hospices and nursing homes; human remains; and individuals who donate or sell blood or blood components.
Standard Precautions	A method of infection control in which all human blood and other potentially infectious materials (OPIM) are treated as if known to be infectious. Standard Precautions apply to (1) blood; (2) all body fluids, secretions, and excretions except sweat, regardless of whether they contain visible blood; (3) non-intact skin; (4) mucous membranes; and (5) human milk. Standard Precautions are designed to reduce the risk of transmission of microorganisms from both recognized and unrecognized sources of infection in hospitals.
Sterilize	The use of a physical or chemical procedure to destroy all microbial life including highly resistant bacterial endospores.
Students	All UNC students. Students should contact Campus Health Services.
UNC Medical Center Employee	Any employee of UNC Hospitals, Hillsborough Hospital, Ambulatory Surgical Center, YBH, and UNC Health Care administrative offices and community-based outpatient facilities who are paid by UNC Health.
University Employee	Any employee of Campus Health Services, the Adams School of Dentistry, Attending Physicians or Fellows paid by UNC, or any other University employee who works in health care facilities. This term and this exposure control plan do not apply to other employees of UNC-CH.
Work Practice Controls	Controls that reduce the likelihood of exposure by altering the way a task is performed.