

Title: BLOODBORNE PATHOGEN EXPOSURE CONTROL

Policy No.: GC

NEW SHOREHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT
BLOCK ISLAND SCHOOL

Purpose:

To prevent the transmission of bloodborne infectious diseases, such as Hepatitis B and HIV infection.

Exposure Policy:

All employees who have occupational exposure to blood or potentially infected body fluids will be offered Hepatitis B vaccine injections. Vaccine will be available to employees who have occupational exposure to blood or potentially infected body fluids at any time during their employment at no cost to the individual. All records relating to exposure and/or treatment are kept confidential, and kept on file for the duration of employment, plus thirty years.

- A consent form will be signed if the employee decides to accept the vaccine.
- A statement of declination, per OSHA guidelines, will be signed if the employee declines vaccine.

Prevention Policy:

All staff must routinely use appropriate barrier precautions to prevent skin and mucous membrane exposure when contact with blood or other body fluids is anticipated. These precautions should be used for all personnel and students.

1. Hands must be washed before and after contact with blood and/or other body fluids. Hands must be washed even when gloves are used.
2. Gloves must be worn for touching blood and/or body fluids, mucous membranes, or non-intact skin, for handling items or surfaces soiled with blood and/or body fluids, and for performing venipuncture and other vascular access procedures.
3. Sharp objects must be handled in such a manner to prevent accidental cuts or punctures. Used needles must not be bent or broken. All needles must be disposed of in puncture resistant containers.
4. School staff with open cuts or rashes must wear gloves when performing all student care activities or handling student secretions/excretions.

5. In the event of a needlestick accident, an exposure of an open wound to blood and/or body fluids, or a mucous membrane exposure to body fluids, the exposed area must be washed immediately. The employee is to report the incident to the main office.
6. To minimize the need for emergency mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, mouth pieces, resuscitation bags, or other ventilation devices will be available for use in areas where the need for resuscitation is predictable.
7. Protective wear should be worn during any procedure that is likely to cause splashes or droplets of blood and/or body fluids.
8. Spills of blood or body fluid will be cleaned and disinfected with a dilution of not less than 1:10 water to bleach.

Employee Categorization:

All employees will be categorized according to the following schedule:

Category I – Those personnel who come in direct contact with blood and body fluids of which precautions must be taken.

Category II – Those personnel who engage in activities without anticipated blood exposure, but may be exposed in an emergency.

Category III – Those personnel engaged in tasks that do not entail either predictable or unpredictable exposure to blood.

Adopted: 12/20/93

New Shoreham School District, Block Island School