

Indiana State University
College of Health and Human Services
Baccalaureate Nursing

Student Health Guidelines
Bloodborne Pathogens Policy

The purpose of this document is to provide guidelines for the prevention of the transmission of Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and other blood borne pathogens in the occupational (clinical) setting. This document is written in conjunction with current University policy and follows the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Guidelines and the State of Indiana Code (#16). The URL for the Indiana Code is: <http://www.state.in.us/legislative/ic/code>.

Prevention of Occupational Transmission to the Student

1. It is required that all nursing students receive the Hepatitis B vaccine series due to the risk of exposure to blood and other bodily fluids during their nursing education and subsequent practice.
2. All nursing students will rigorously adhere to the principles of Standard Precautions during laboratory practice and in direct care experiences.
3. Annually all nursing students, graduate and undergraduate, currently enrolled in clinical nursing courses will complete the educational module related to Bloodborne Pathogens/Standard Precautions.
 - A. The training module is located on the Nursing Annual Training Site on ISU Blackboard.
 - B. Following completion of the module, the student will take the quiz that records the training. An 80% must be achieved for the training requirement to have been met.
 - C. Even if training has been completed through a health care agency in which employed the student must also meet the annual requirement via completion of the module and test at the Nursing Annual Training Site on ISU Blackboard.

Prevention of Occupational Transmission to the Patient

1. Infected students will rigorously adhere to the principles of Standard Precautions during laboratory practice and in direct patient care experiences.
2. All students who have exudative lesions or weeping dermatitis will refrain from all direct patient care.
3. There is no basis to restrict the practice of students infected with HIV or HBV who perform invasive procedures that are not identified as “exposure prone.” Characteristics of exposure-prone procedures include digital palpation of a needle tip in a cavity or the simultaneous presence of the health care worker’s (student’s) fingers and a needle or other sharp instrument or object in a poorly visible or highly confined anatomic state.

Post Exposure Management

Contact with blood or other body fluids to which Standard Precautions apply through percutaneous inoculation or contact with an open wound, non-intact skin, or mucous membrane during the performance of normal job duties is considered occupational exposure. To minimize the risk of acquisition of infection from an occupational exposure, students will **take the following steps immediately**.

1. Thoroughly wash the exposed area.
2. Notify the clinical instructor or preceptor.

3. Seek medical attention immediately for medical evaluation and to determine what type of follow-up is needed. Post-exposure care for both HB and HIV should be administered as soon as possible (within the first few hours) after the exposure incident for maximum effectiveness.
 - If the exposure occurs at Union Hospital, use Union's Employee Health office (1606 N. 7th Street, Terre Haute, IN 47804, located in Union West floor adjacent to the wound center). If after Hours or weekends, contact the Union Hospital Administrative Supervisor. If at Union Hospital Clinton, contact the Employee Health representative and/or the Administrative Supervisor.
 - If the exposure occurs at Regional Hospital, use the Employee Health and Wellness office (3901 S. 7th Street, Terre Haute, IN 47802, in the Professional Office Building on the first floor). If after hours or weekends go to their emergency room.
 - For all other locations: Use the local emergency room.
 - Distance students: Use the local emergency room.
 - **Students are responsible for all expenses for medical treatment and follow-up.**
4. The clinical instructor or preceptor will report the incident to the Department Chair.
5. Complete an [incident report](#) with the assistance of the instructor or preceptor.

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