

Bloodborne Pathogen Policy

While normal library operations are not likely to involve circumstances exposing employees or users to bloodborne pathogens, where applicable, the Shorewood-Troy Public Library District complies with Illinois Department of Labor regulations and, therefore, the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulations relating to occupational exposures to bloodborne pathogens which administrative actions have incorporated.

Exposure Determination: No particular job classification of the library has occupational exposure (meaning “reasonably anticipated...contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials that may result from the performance of an employee’s duties”). However, emergencies may occur with staff or patrons to which library employees in all classifications may be called upon to respond with assistance. All library members may also come in contact with hygiene products that contain blood.

Universal Precautions: All potential circumstances of exposure must be taken into account by the library and its employees to protect against exposures. Hepatitis B (HBV), human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), and other bloodborne pathogens found in human blood and other body fluids cause life-threatening diseases. In an emergency or other such circumstances, when contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials may result, the library’s approach to infection control requires all human blood and body fluids to be treated as if known to be infectious for HIV, HBV, and other bloodborne pathogens. Engineering and work practice controls shall be used to eliminate or minimize employee exposures, and if a possibility of exposure remains, personal protective equipment shall also be used.

Exposure Control Plan: At any time within the library environment that human blood, human body fluids, or other potentially infectious materials are presented, staff should notify the department supervisor or Person-in-Charge on duty. The area contaminated shall be immediately cordoned off. Personal protection clothing, such as gloves, gowns, masks, etc., shall be provided and used in the cleanup and safe disposal of contaminated waste such as diapers, blood-tinged materials (e.g. Band-Aids, gauze, cotton, clothing, etc.), etc. A professional hazardous/contaminated cleanup firm shall be contacted and retained for complete cleanup and decontamination if advisable. The area shall remain cordoned off until thorough cleanup and disposal are completed. Hand-washing facilities are provided by the library and must be used by the employees as soon as feasible, including following the removal of personal protective equipment. The Director will keep a complete record of all incidents, exposures, cleanup, and disposals.

Training and Immunizations: The library shall provide and keep a record of annual in-service training and educational programs for employees designated for cleanup and disposal activities (i.e., facilities staff). Any employee who has occupational exposure shall be offered, at no charge, the hepatitis series in accordance with the regulations. Following the report of an

Approved By Board of Trustees, 9/8/22

exposure incident, the library will make immediately available to the exposed employee or employees a confidential medical evaluation and follow-up as provided in the regulations.