

# Bloodborne Pathogens



**AMERICAN  
SAFETY &  
HEALTH  
INSTITUTE**

# AMERICAN SAFETY & HEALTH INSTITUTE

An HSI Company

## Bloodborne Pathogens Student Book, *Version 8.0*

### Purpose of this Student Book

This ASHI *Bloodborne Pathogens 8.0 Student Book* is solely intended to facilitate certification in an ASHI Bloodborne Pathogens training class. The information in this handbook is furnished for that purpose and is subject to change without notice.

ASHI certification may only be issued when an ASHI-authorized Instructor verifies a student has successfully completed the required core knowledge objectives of the program.

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Making the Workplace and Community Safer.

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# OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Standard

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Find it in OSHA

English | Spanish

ABOUT OSHA - WORKERS - EMPLOYERS - REGULATIONS - ENFORCEMENT - TOPICS - NEWS - DATA - TRAINING -

Regulations (Standards - 29 CFR) - Table of Contents

- Part Number: 1910
- Part Title: Occupational Safety and Health Standards
- Subpart: Z
- Subpart Title: Toxic and Hazardous Substances
- Standard Number: 1910.1030
- Title: Bloodborne pathogens.
- Appendix: A
- GPO Source: e-CFR

1910.1030(a)

*Scope and Application.* This section applies to all occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials as defined by paragraph (b) of this section.

1910.1030(b)

*Definitions.* For purposes of this section, the following shall apply:

*Assistant Secretary* means the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, or designated representative.

Some employees face significant health risk as a result of exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials (OPIM).

In 1991, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued the Bloodborne Pathogens Standard, 29 CFR 1910.1030, which applies to all employees who can reasonably come in contact with human blood and OPIM in the course of their job activities.

The purpose of the standard is to protect employees by minimizing or eliminating exposure to disease-carrying microorganisms, or pathogens that can be found in human blood and other body fluids.

Every year, all employees with the potential of occupational exposure must receive training on bloodborne pathogens and exposure control methods.

Your understanding of important concepts such as engineering and work practice controls, personal protective equipment, exposure follow up, and housekeeping procedures can help reduce or eliminate your risk of being exposed to potentially infectious materials in your workplace.



### *The Needlestick Safety and Prevention Act*

An estimated 385,000 needlestick injuries occur annually in hospital settings. Nurses are the most frequently injured, but laboratory staff, physicians, housekeepers, and other healthcare workers are also injured.

In response to concern over these exposures, Congress passed the Needlestick Safety and Prevention Act, directing OSHA to revise the Bloodborne Pathogens Standard. This revision became effective in April 2001.

The revised standard states that “safer medical devices, such as sharps with engineered sharps injury protections and needleless systems, must be used where feasible.” Safer needles have built-in safety control devices, such as those that use a self-sheathing needle, to help prevent injuries before, during, and after use through safer design features.

Since the act was implemented, there has been a 31.6% decrease in sharps injuries in non-surgical settings. For more information, OSHA has developed an excellent website dedicated to safety and prevention of needlesticks and sharps injuries. See the Hospital eTool (HealthCare Wide Hazards Module) at <http://www.osha.gov>.



### *Knowledge Check*

What is the purpose of the OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Standard?

*The Bloodborne Pathogens Standard, 29 CFR 1910.1030 is accessible through the OSHA website at [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov).*

PREVIEW

### *Who to Talk to About BBP in Your Organization*

**Notes:**

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