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# WELCOME!

Welcome to the Hard Hat Training Series by Safety Provisions! Today, we'll be discussing Bloodborne Pathogens, also known as BBPs.



Diseases have plagued mankind for as long as we have existed. As the ages go by, we gain a better understanding of sicknesses and develop ways to heal and prevent illness. However, just because we are better equipped for handling these illnesses doesn't mean we are immune to them.



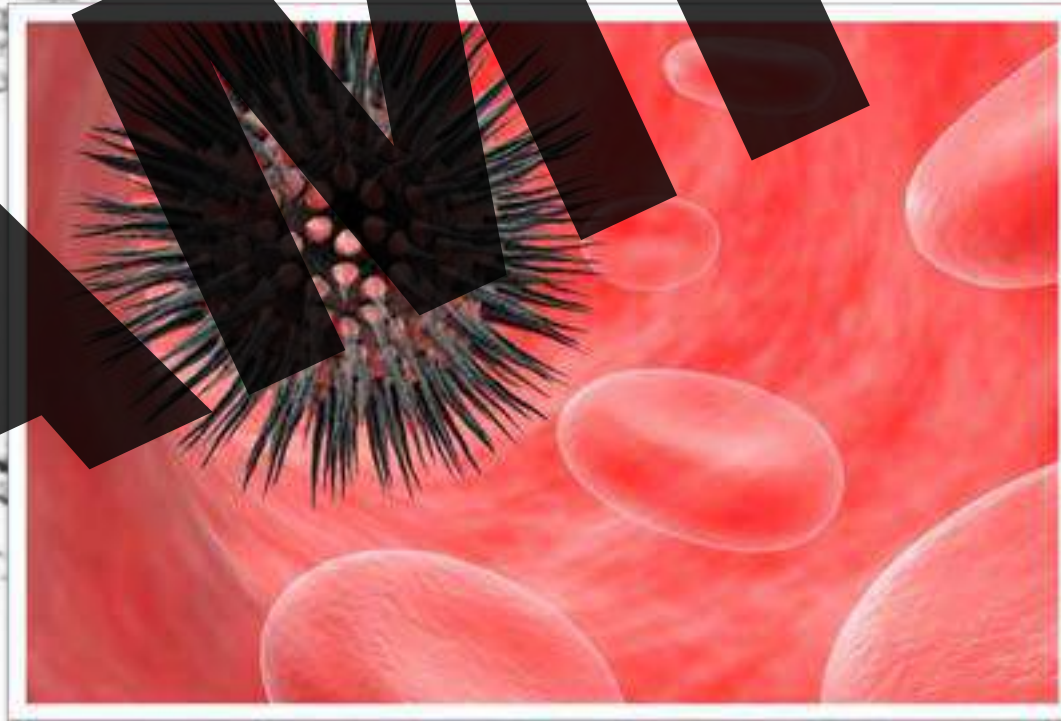


Pathogens are microorganisms that can cause disease, such as bacteria or viruses. Their methods for spreading vary depending on which pathogen is present. The pathogens we will be discussing in this training pass between different lifeforms through infected blood.



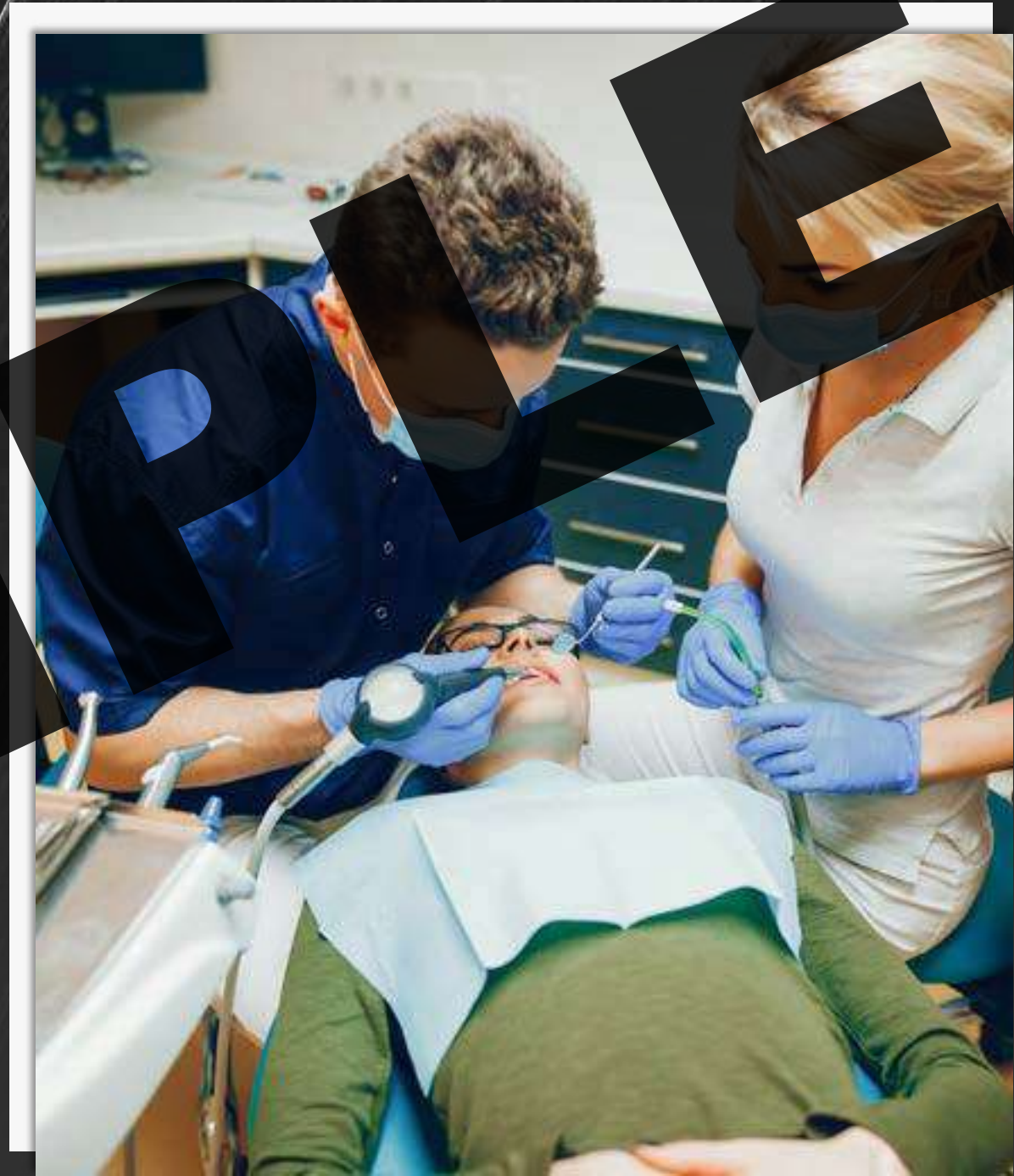
## DEFINITION: MICROORGANISMS

Microorganisms are forms of life so small they can only be seen with the use of a microscope. While all pathogens are microorganisms, not all microorganisms are pathogens.





Consider the following story: A dental assistant was recapping the lid of a needle after administering Novocain to a patient. Her hand slipped, and she stuck herself in the finger with the needle. At the time, she did not think much about the injury.





Almost two months later, the dental office heard that the patient was diagnosed with Hepatitis C, which put the dental assistant into a panic. She went to the hospital, where she tested positive for Hepatitis C.



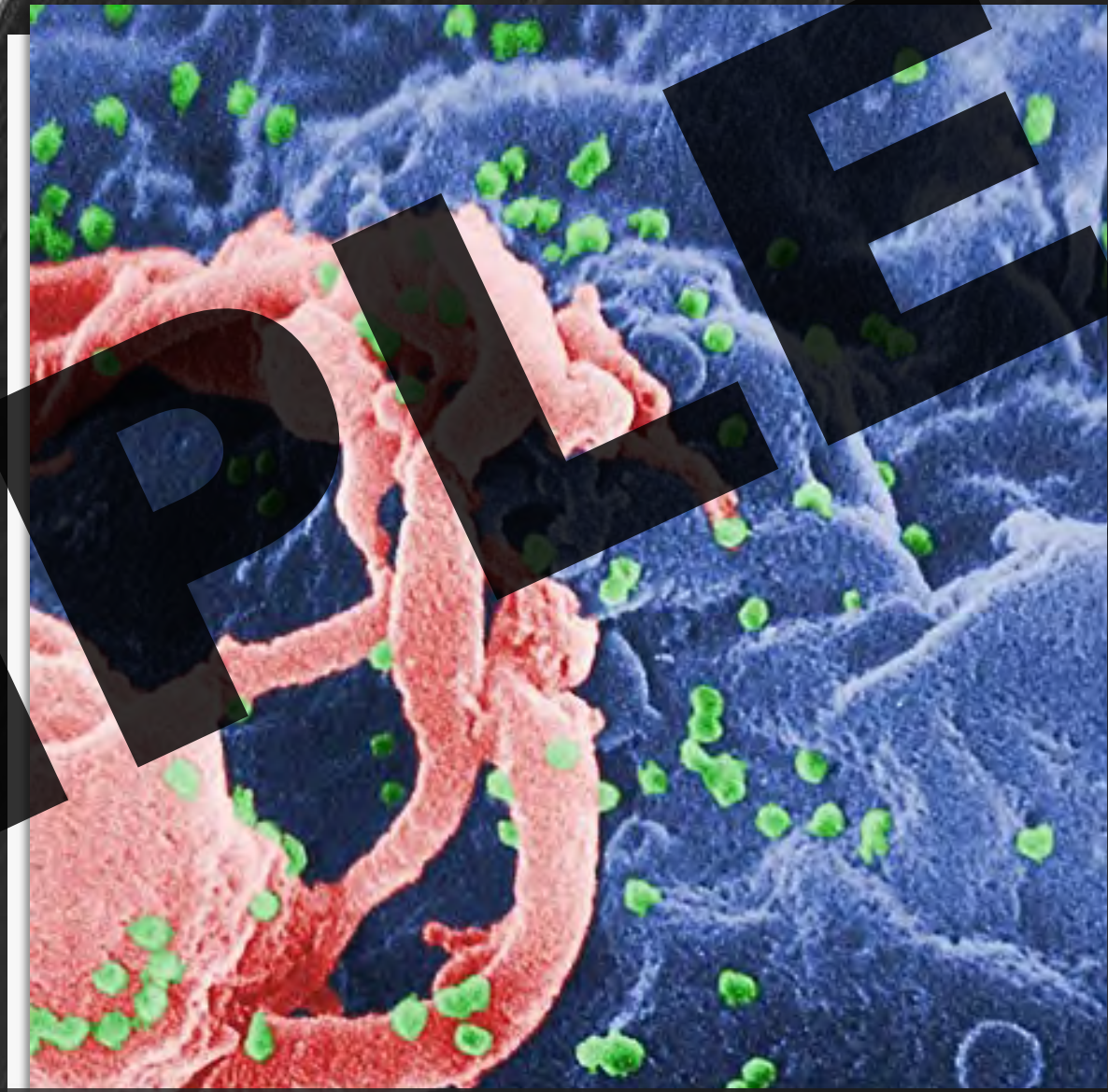


This is not an isolated incident. Accidents like this happen in many industries. In this training, we will identify common hazards associated with BBPs. We will also discuss common paths of exposure.



# Diseases

Bloodborne pathogens transmit a variety of diseases including hepatitis B (HBV) and C (HCV), HIV, and AIDS. While these are the more well-known BBPs, there are many other diseases that can be transmitted via blood.



**TAKE NOTE**

This training is for educational purposes only, meant to minimize the risk of contracting bloodborne pathogens. This course is NOT intended to diagnose or recommend treatment for any BBP disease.







**HBV**

Hepatitis refers to a group of highly contagious viruses that target the liver. HBV and HCV are the two most common BBPs. They can cause serious damage to the body before death, yet there is no cure.

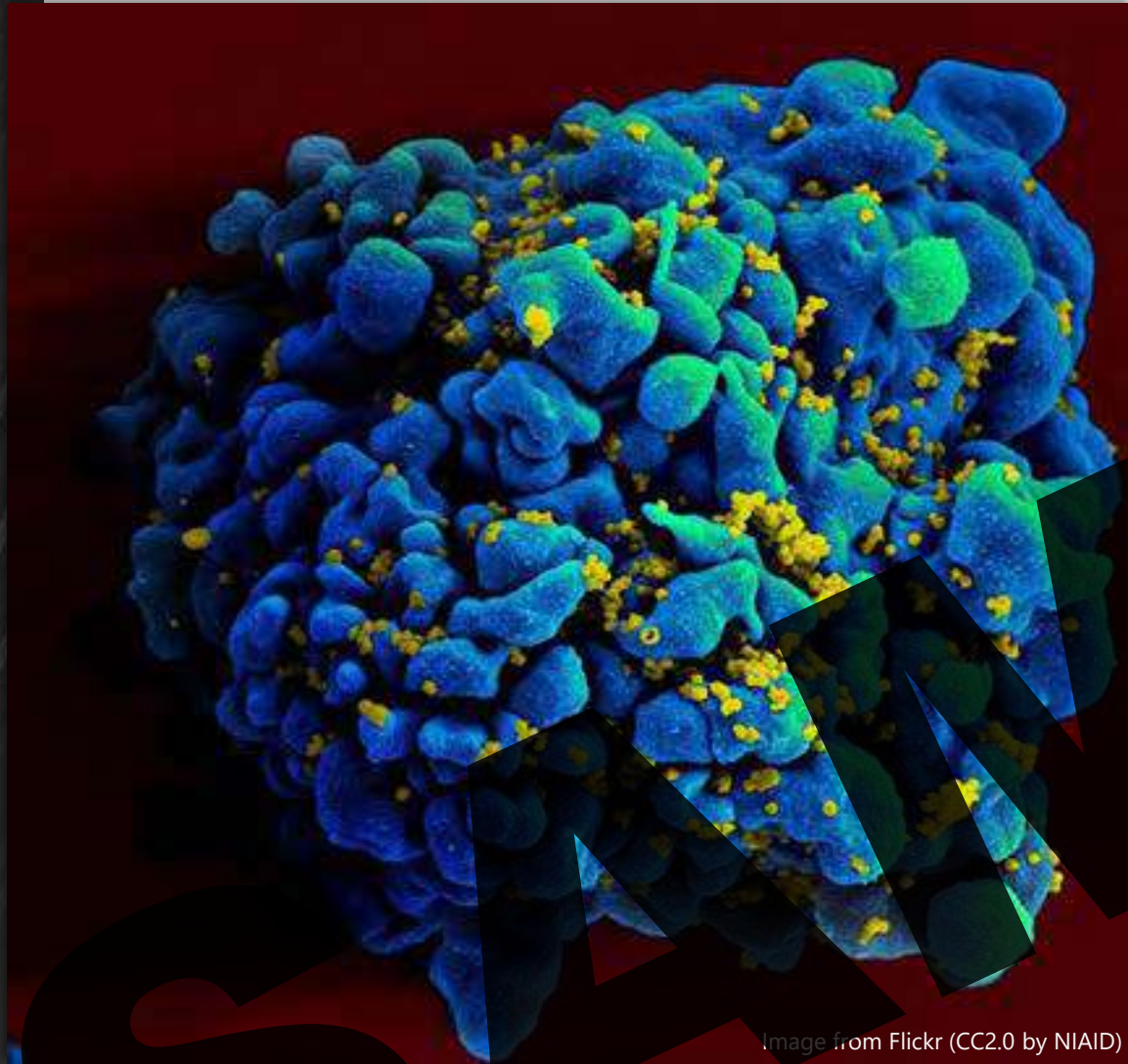
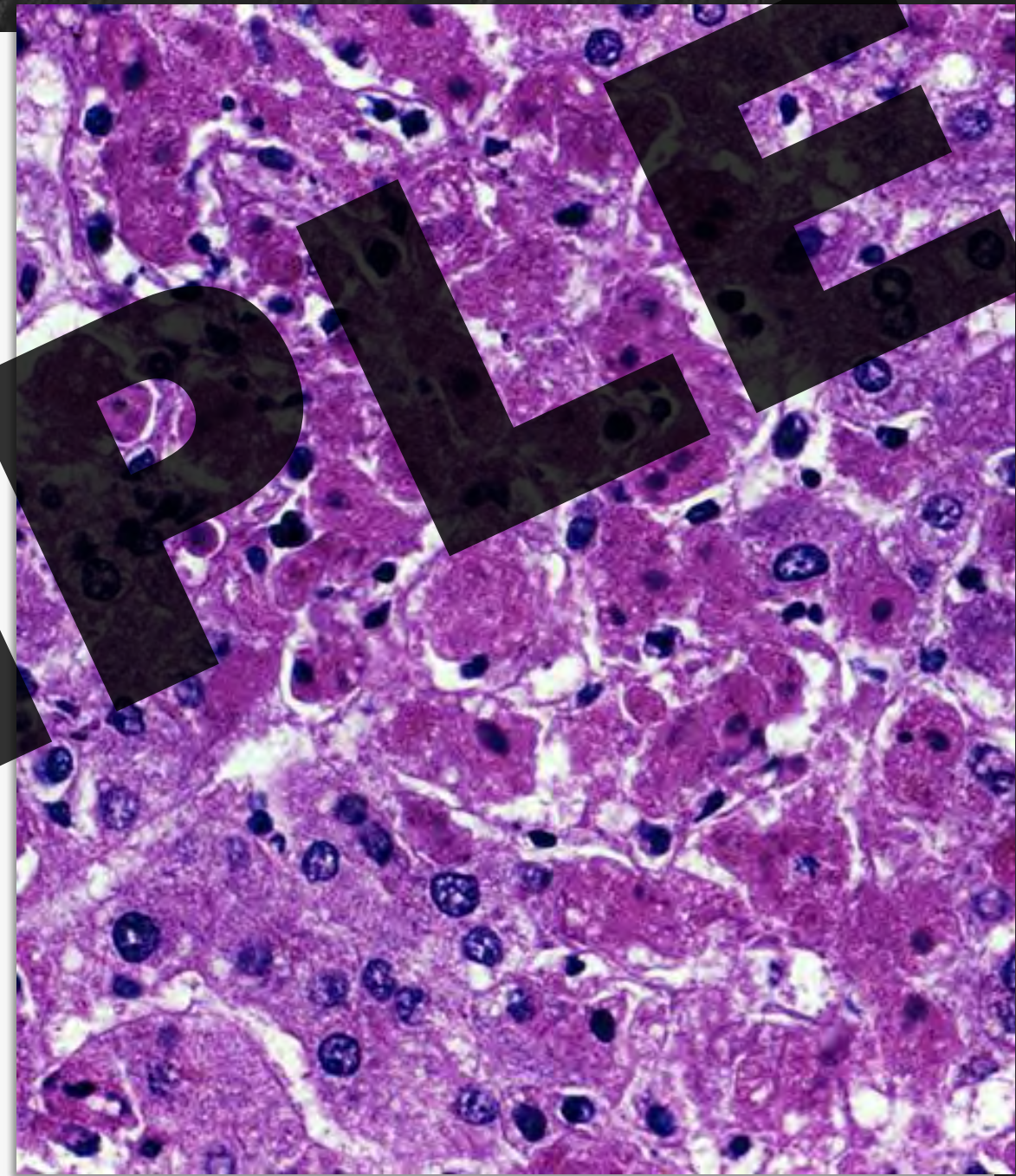


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Besides hepatitis, other blood-transmitted diseases include HIV and AIDs, which weaken the immune system and cause death should they be left untreated. Keep in mind that there are other BBPs out there, such as malaria, syphilis, and brucellosis.



In this training, we cannot cover every bloodborne disease, or their associated symptoms. It is your responsibility to monitor your health, maintain a safe work environment, and seek help should you or someone else feel sick or come across BBPs.





Contracting a BBP can dramatically reduce a person's quality of life, introduce chronic illnesses, or be fatal. Exposure incidents can also lead to union grievances, indefinite work restrictions, and significant stress for workers and their families.







In this training, we will first cover how you can become infected. The best way to protect yourself is by knowing what poses the greatest danger to your health.

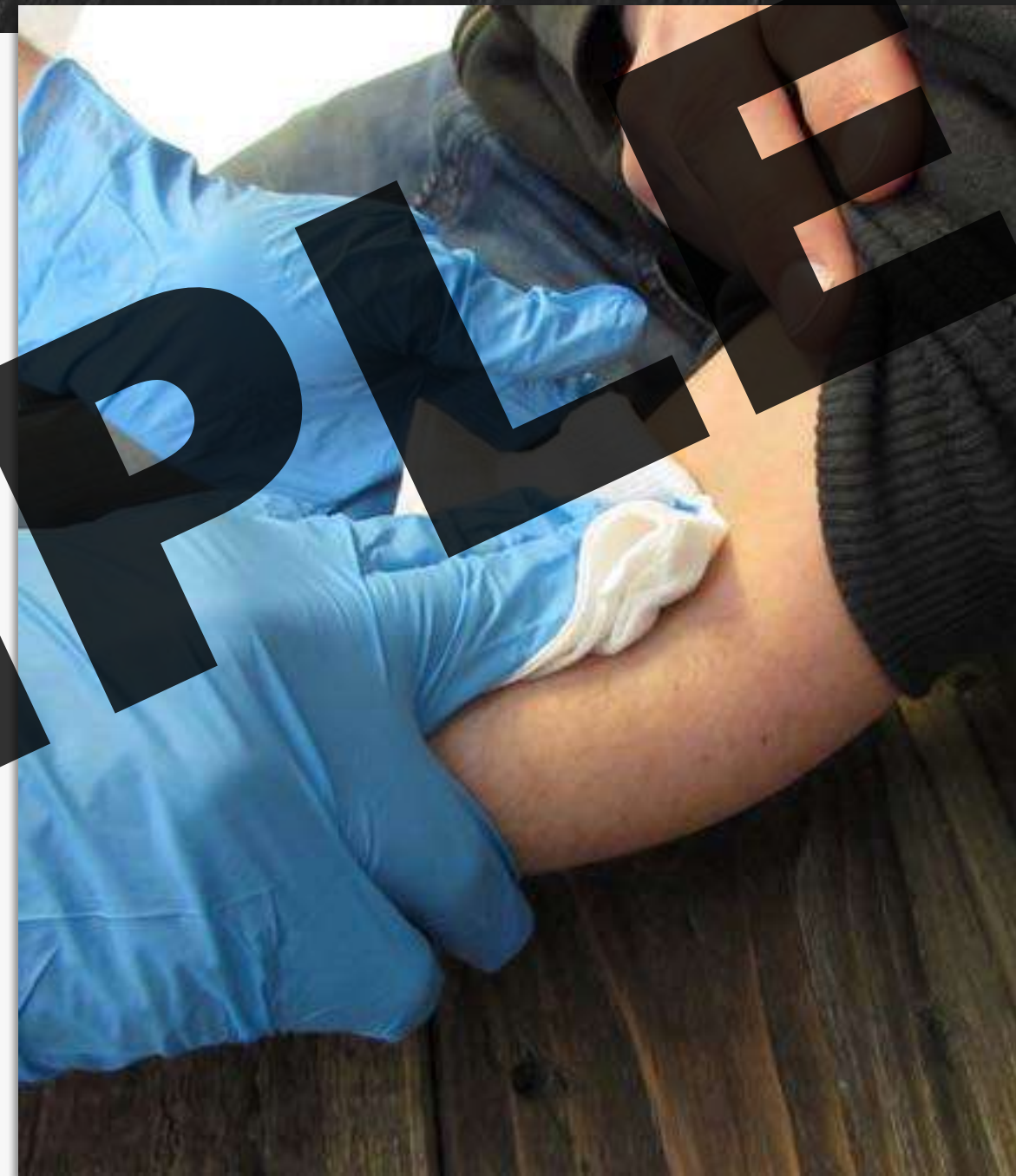




Next, you will need to know how to prevent infection from these pathogens. The best way to maintain a healthy work environment is to never have anyone become exposed to a bloodborne disease, as many have no cure.



Finally, we will learn about what to do should someone become exposed to a pathogen. You will learn what first aid needs to be applied if an accident occurs. You will also learn about what you need to do to record the incident and what follow-ups are necessary.



Throughout this training, we will look at real, investigated accident profiles. In some cases, two or three similar accidents have been combined for the purpose of illustrating key safety principles. They will show just how quickly things can go wrong when safety procedures are ignored, resulting in injuries or fatalities.

**SAMPLE**



# STANDARDS

These are some of the main standards concerning today's topic. Many states or provinces have additional standards, as do some industries. We have provided these as a guide, but it's your responsibility to know all federal, local, and company rules that apply to your job site.



## **29 CFR 1910.1030**

Bloodborne Pathogens


## **29 CFR 1910.151**

Medical Services and First Aid

## **29 CFR 1926.25**

Disposal of Sharps, Hazardous Waste

**General Duty Clause 5(a)(1)** – "Each employer shall furnish to each of his employees employment and a place of employment which are free from serious recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause death or serious physical harm to his employees."




No matter the situation, it's important to ask, "Where is the responsibility for training?" While experience helps, yes, but regulations are very clear that employees must be trained (no matter how long they've been on the job) and that it is the employer who is responsible for overseeing that safety training, ensuring employees have the understanding, knowledge, and skills needed to operate safely.

## WHY TRAINING?



INITIAL TRAINING and REFRESHER TRAINING, as well as any WRITTEN AND PRACTICAL EVALUATIONS, must be documented and filed. At the very least, employers need to show proof of PROPER AND CONSISTENT TRAINING (in the way of TRAINING OUTLINES, CLASS LISTS, TRAINING GOALS, TESTS, CERTIFICATES, and SO ON.) These documents should include the name of the person who taught the class or conducted the evaluation.





However, training is **NOT** just a one-and-done occurrence; it is **ON-GOING**. In fact, training should take place whenever there is a demonstrated need for it.

Employees **MUST** receive **REFRESHER TRAINING** in the following instances...







# 1

There are changes in their assigned duties

# SAMPLE

# 2

There are changes regarding potential exposure hazards, for which the employee has not received training





# 3

# S

Any deficiency has been noted in an employee's work performance that is related to the safety and health of themselves or other workers



# 4

An accident has occurred, or an employee has been injured (or nearly injured) during operations





The extent of training will be determined by the employer, but at the very least it should include **CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION** followed by a **WRITTEN AND PRACTICAL EXAMINATION** that prove continued competency.



# Infection



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