

## APPENDIX 1: DEFINITIONS

### **Assistant Secretary**

Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health or a designated representative.

### **Blood**

Human blood, human blood components and products made from human blood.

### **Bloodborne Pathogens**

Pathogenic microorganisms that are present in human blood and can cause disease in humans. These pathogens include, but are not limited to, hepatitis B virus (HBV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

### **Clinical Laboratory**

A workplace where diagnostic or other screening procedures are performed on blood or other potentially infectious materials.

### **Contaminated**

The presence or the reasonably anticipated presence of blood or other potentially infectious materials on an item or surface.

### **Contaminated Laundry**

Laundry which has been soiled with blood or other potentially infectious materials or may contain sharps.

### **Contaminated Sharps**

Any contaminated object that can penetrate the skin including, but not limited to, needles, scalpels, broken glass, broken capillary tubes and exposed ends of dental wires.

### **Decontamination**

The use of physical or chemical means to remove, inactivate or destroy bloodborne pathogens on a surface or item to the point where they are no longer capable of transmitting infectious particles and the surface or item is rendered safe for handling, use or disposal.

### **Director**

The Director of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services or a designated representative.

### **Engineering Controls**

Controls (e.g., sharps disposal containers, self-sheathing needles, safety medical devices, such as sharps with engineered sharps injury protections and needleless systems) that isolate or remove the bloodborne pathogens hazard from the workplace.

### **Exposure Incident**

A specific eye, mouth, other mucus membrane, non-intact skin or parental contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials that may result from the performance of an employee's duties.

### **Handwashing Facilities**

A facility for providing an adequate supply of running potable water, soap and single use towels or hot air drying machines.

### **Licensed Healthcare Professional**

A person whose legally permitted scope of practice allows him or her to independently perform the activities required by the Hepatitis B Vaccination and Post-exposure Evaluation and Follow-up sections of the Plan.

### **HBV**

Hepatitis B virus.

## **HIV**

Human immunodeficiency virus.

## **Needleless Systems**

A device that does not use needles for (1) The collection of bodily fluids or withdrawal of body fluids after initial venous or arterial access is established; (2) The administration of medication or fluids; or (3) Any other procedure involving the potential for occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens due to percutaneous injuries from contaminated sharps.

## **Occupational Exposure**

Reasonably anticipated skin, eye, mucus membrane or parental contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials that may result from the performance of an employee's duties.

## **Other Potentially Infectious Material**

(1) The following human body fluids: semen, vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluid, synovial fluid, pleural fluid, pericardial fluid, peritoneal fluid, amniotic fluid, saliva in dental procedures, any body fluid that is visibly contaminated with blood and all body fluids in situations where it is difficult or impossible to differentiate between body fluids; (2) Any unfixed tissue organ (other than intact skin) from a human (living or dead); and (3) HIV-containing cell or tissue cultures, organ cultures, and HIV- or HBV containing culture medium or other solutions; and blood, organs, or other tissues from experimental animals infected with HIV or HBV.

## **Parenteral**

Piercing mucous membranes or the skin barrier through such events as needlesticks, human bites, cuts and abrasions.

## **Personal Protective Equipment**

Specialized clothing or equipment worn by an employee for protection against a hazard. General work clothes (e.g., uniforms, pants, shirts or blouses) are not intended to function as protection against a hazard and are not considered to be *personal protective equipment*.

## **Production Facility**

A facility engaged in industrial-scale, large-volume or high concentration production of HIV or HBV.

## **Regulated Waste**

Liquid or semi-liquid blood or other potentially infectious materials; items contaminated with blood or other potentially infectious materials; items that are caked with dried blood or other potentially infectious materials and are capable of releasing these materials during handling; contaminated sharps; and pathological and microbiological wastes containing blood or other potentially infectious materials.

## **Research Laboratory**

A laboratory producing or using research-laboratory-scale amounts of HIV or HBV. Research laboratories may produce high concentrations of HIV or HBV but not in the volume found in production facilities.

## **Sharps with engineered sharps injury protections**

A nonneedle sharp or a needle device used for withdrawing body fluids, accessing a vein or artery or administering medications or other fluids, with a built-in safety feature or mechanism that effectively reduces the risk of an exposure incident.

## **Source Individual**

Any individual, living or dead, whose blood or other potentially infectious materials may be a source of occupational exposure.

## **Sterilize**

The use of a physical or chemical procedure to destroy all microbial life including highly resistant bacterial endospores.

**Universal Precautions**

A method of exposure control in which all human blood and certain human body fluids are treated as if known to be infected with HIV, HBV and other bloodborne pathogens.

**Work Practice Controls**

Controls that reduce the likelihood of exposure by altering the manner in which a task is performed (i.e., prohibiting recapping of needles by a two-handed technique).