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| DEFINITIONS | |
| Biohazardous Material | As per WCB OHS Regulation 6.33, biohazardous material a pathogenic organism, including a bloodborne pathogen, which due to its known or reasonably believed ability to cause disease in humans, would be classified as Risk Group 2, 3 or 4 as defined by the Medical Research Council of Canada, or any material contaminated with such an organism. |
|  | For the purpose of this guideline, blood and certain body fluids, blood and body fluids capable of transmitting bloodborne pathogens, and biomedical waste are considered biohazardous materials. |
| “Blood and certain body fluids” | “Blood and certain body fluids” can be infected with tiny organisms that can cause disease in humans. |
|  | For the purpose of this guideline: |
| or | * blood refers to “human” blood. |
| “Infected blood and body fluids” or “body fluids capable of transmitting bloodborne pathogens” | “Certain body fluids”, “infected blood and body fluids”, or “body fluids capable of transmitting bloodborne pathogens” refers to the following body fluids capable of transmitting HIV, or hepatitis B or C (bloodborne pathogens) from an infected individual:   * Blood, serum, plasma, and all biologic fluids visibly contaminated with blood * Uterine/vaginal secretions or semen (unlikely to transmit HCV) * Fluid that the fetus (unborn baby) lives in (amniotic fluid) * Fluid around the heart (pericardial fluid) * Fluid in the lining of the lungs (pleural fluid) * Fluid in the abdomen (Peritoneal fluid) * Fluid in joints (synovial fluid) * Fluid surrounding the brain and spinal cord (cerebrospinal fluid) * Breast milk – has been shown to transmit only HIV * Saliva for HBV only, unless contaminated with blood |

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| “Blood and certain body fluids” | Body fluids that are not implicated in the transmission of HIV, and hepatitis B and C **unless visibly contaminated with blood** are: |
|  | * Tears |
|  | * Nasal secretions |
|  | * Sputum (coughed up from the lungs) |
| “Infected blood and body fluids” | * Vomitus |
|  | * Urine |
|  | * Sweat |
|  | * Feces (stools) |
| “body fluids capable of transmitting bloodborne pathogens” | These body fluids may spread other infections – for example  stools can spread hepatitis A and sputum can spread tuberculosis – but they are not of concern in the spread HIV and the hepatitis B and C viruses. |
| Biomedical Waste | Biomedical waste includes human blood and blood products, consisting of: |
|  | * Human fluid blood and blood products, |
|  | * Items saturated or dripping with human blood, |
|  | * Body fluids contaminated with human blood, and |
|  | * Waste sharps consisting of needles capable of causing punctures or cuts. |
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|  | Biomedical waste is also considered a(n): |
|  | * Dangerous good |
|  | * Infectious Substance, Class 6.2 |
|  | * Hazardous waste |

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| Bloodborne Pathogens | Blood and certain body fluids can be infected with tiny organisms that can cause disease in humans. These micro- organisms are known as bloodborne pathogens. |
| The bloodborne pathogens of most concern are the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and the hepatitis B and C viruses. HIV causes the disease AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) and the hepatitis B and C viruses cause diseases with the same names. Since exposure to infected blood and certain body fluids may spread these viruses, these diseases are also called bloodborne diseases. |
| Other bloodborne pathogens include but are not limited to malaria, syphilis, and brucellosis. |
| Contaminated | Contaminated means the presence or the reasonable anticipated presence of “blood or certain body fluids” on an item or surface. |
| Guidelines | Guidelines are directing principles and indications or outlines of policy or conduct that should not be regarded as rigid standards. |
| Infectious Disease | Refer to CNW Infection Control Guidelines, Appendix A, Definitions. |
| Needle | A needle is a sharp. A needle is a slender hollow instrument for introducing material into or removing material from the body parenterally.  A common type of needle CNW employees may come in contact with in the course of their duties is a hypodermic syringe. A hypodermic syringe is a piston syringe that is fitted with a hypodermic needle for giving injections. (can be used for intravenous drug injections).  \*All used hypodermic needles should be treated as hazardous. |
| Needlestick or Needlestick injury | An accidental puncture of the skin with a contaminated needle. |

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| Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens | Reasonably anticipated harmful contact with infected blood or body fluids that may result from the performance of a employee’s duties. |
| Sharp | Is anything that can pierce, puncture or cut skin with infected blood and body fluids such as: |
| * Needle, |
| * Scalpels, |
| * Knives, |
| * Razors, |
| * Scissors, |
| * Broken glass, etc |
| Universal Precautions | Universal Precautions refer to a concept of infection control designed to reduce the risk of transmission of bloodborne pathogens.  Universal Precautions require all human blood and certain body fluids to be treated as if they were known to be infectious. Where it is difficult or impossible to differentiate between body fluids, all body fluids are to be considered as potentially infectious.  An example of a universal precaution is wearing waterproof gloves when handling objects contaminated with blood. |