



WESTMONT PUBLIC LIBRARY

428 N Cass Ave, Westmont, IL 60559

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westmontlibrary.org

Providing the community with the keys to lifelong learning.

Bloodborne Pathogen Policy

Purpose

The Westmont Public Library complies with Illinois Department of Labor regulations and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulations relating to occupational exposures to bloodborne pathogens. Hepatitis B, HIV, and other bloodborne pathogens found in human blood and other body fluids cause life-threatening diseases. In 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 to be treated as if known to be infectious for bloodborne pathogens.

Control Measures

Though normal Library operations are not likely to expose employees to bloodborne pathogens, there is the possibility of a patron or employee being injured at the Library and blood being present. It is recommended that, in the presence of blood, employees provide appropriate first aid materials and that paramedics are called in all but minor injuries involving blood.

All control measures must be taken into account by the Library and its employees to eliminate or minimize employee exposure. If at any time blood or other potentially infectious materials are presented, employees shall notify the person-in-charge. The contaminated area shall be immediately cordoned off. If advisable, a professional hazardous/contaminated cleanup firm shall be contacted and retained for complete cleanup and decontamination. The area shall remain cordoned off until complete cleanup and disposal is obtained.

The Library will provide employees with gloves and other protective gear to use in an incident. Hand washing facilities are available and employees are to wash their hands and any other potentially contaminated skin area with water and soap immediately after an incident. Immediately following an incident involving blood or an injured or ill patron or staff member, the assisting staff member must fill out an incident report and give it to administration where the circumstances of the incident will be reviewed by the Director and the report will be kept on file.

Training and Immunizations

The Library shall provide, routine in-service training for staff on first aid and safety precautions related to bloodborne pathogen exposure. Any employee who has an occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens shall be offered, at no charge, the hepatitis B vaccine series, in accordance with regulations. Following the report of an exposure incident, the Library will immediately offer the exposed employee or employees a confidential medical evaluation. If an employee refuses the vaccine or blood test, the employee must sign a waiver stating that they were offered the vaccine and medical evaluation and refused it.

Other exposures

Employees may also be exposed to other types of bodily fluids, such as vomit, saliva, and urine while on duty. In the interest of sanitation and good health, employees shall take all necessary precaution when dealing with bodily fluids and follow all reasonable rules that are enacted to protect the health and safety of staff and patrons. Personal protection clothing, such as gloves, shall be provided and used in the cleanup and safe disposal of contaminated waste such as diapers.