



Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



Bloodborne Pathogens Safety Message

Bloodborne pathogens are a huge concern for workers in certain industries, but they should also be a concern to everyone. While not everyone has the risk of being exposed to bloodborne pathogens on a daily basis at their job, there is always a chance that you could come into contact with potentially infectious materials.

- When dealing with bodily fluids or any potentially infectious materials, use “universal precautions.” Using universal precautions means you treat all of these materials as if they contain bloodborne pathogens. Utilizing safe work practices along with the correct PPE to protect yourself is a large part of using universal precautions.
- If you are exposed to potentially infectious materials, immediately flush and scrub the exposed area with warm water and soap. Notify a supervisor of the possible exposure and seek medical treatment.

While you may not work in an industry such as healthcare where exposure to bloodborne pathogens is a major concern, you should still be aware of how to prevent exposure. Whether at home or at work, the potential to have to provide first aid or clean up potentially infectious materials in your lifetime is high. Protecting yourself from exposure to bloodborne pathogens needs to be your first concern when dealing with potentially infectious materials.