



SAFETY UNLIMITED, INC.

Safety Tip of the Week

The Injured and Bloodborne Pathogens

Bloodborne pathogens are microorganisms, normally carried in infected blood and bodily fluids, that can cause diseases, some fatal, such as Hepatitis B and C, as well as HIV.

Qualified, trained first-aiders should be equipped to safeguard against this exposure.

Responding to injuries:

Here at our facility the one opportunity we have to come in contact with a bloodborne pathogen is while we are trying to assist an injured coworker who is bleeding.

Here are some things to remember:

- If a coworker has a minor accident that causes bleeding, try to have the victim bandage his or her own wound.
- If the injury is serious, call the emergency response team.
- If you don't have time to wait for the emergency response team, make sure you take universal precautions.
- Remember that vomit, burns, abrasions, and external and internal injuries can release bodily fluids.
- When removing disposable gloves, roll the first glove off the hand inside out.
- Place disposable gloves in an approved biohazard bag. Wash your hands immediately after removing any gloves.
- If you have been exposed to a victim's bodily fluid, wash the affected area thoroughly with soap and water.
 - Contact a medical professional and report the incident to your employer for further action, should it be appropriate.



When you gamble with safety...you bet your life!!