

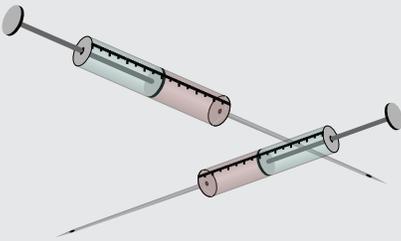
Bloodborne Pathogens

If you work with needles or any type of sharp object, or you are at risk of exposure to certain body fluids, bloodborne pathogens are a concern. These are microorganisms that are present in human blood and can infect and cause disease in people who are exposed to blood containing the pathogen. Examples of bloodborne pathogens include Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Hepatitis B (HBV), and Hepatitis C (HCV).

The following tables present ways in which you may be exposed to bloodborne pathogens, how you can prevent such exposure, and what to do if exposed.

Route of exposure

Needlestick



Prevention and Safety

- ▶ Never recap a needle.
- ▶ Don't try to bend or remove the needle from a syringe.
- ▶ If you find a needle, do not pick it up! Instead contact a security officer from The New School at 212.229.5101.

Route of exposure

Cuts by contaminated objects



Prevention and Safety

- ▶ Wear gloves whenever you are working with sharp objects.
- ▶ Use a cutting guard if working with blades.

Route of exposure

Splash of blood and contaminated body fluids to the eyes, nose, mouth, or broken skin



Prevention and Safety

- ▶ Wear glasses, gloves, and other protective gear whenever possible.

What to do if exposed

If you are stuck by a contaminated needle or other sharp object, get blood or other potentially infectious materials (such as semen, vaginal secretions, or any body fluid that is visibly contaminated with blood) in your eyes, nose, mouth, or on broken skin, immediately flood the exposed area with water and clean any wound with soap and water. Report this immediately to your supervisor or shop technician, and seek immediate medical attention.

Note: Employees should refer to the post-exposure procedures detailed in the university's Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan.

Please contact your shop technician or Katherine Perkins (perkinsk@newschool.edu), Environmental Health and Safety, Office of Facilities Management, if you have any questions about the information on this sheet.

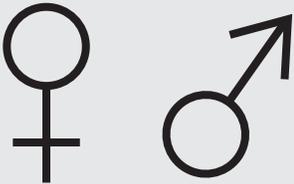
For more information on sexual health or any health issue, contact Wellness and Health Promotion, Student Health Services at wellness@newschool.edu or 212.229.1671, option 4.

Safety Tips were made possible by The New School Occupational Safety Work Group.

Bloodborne Pathogens

Route of exposure

Sexual transmission



Prevention and Safety

- ▶ Always use condoms for oral, anal, and vaginal sex.
- ▶ Use dental dams for oral sex.



Female Condom



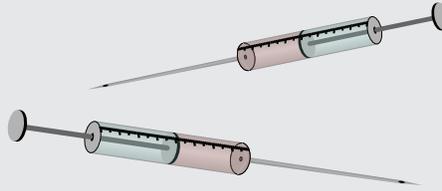
Male Condom



Dental Dams

Route of exposure

Drug use

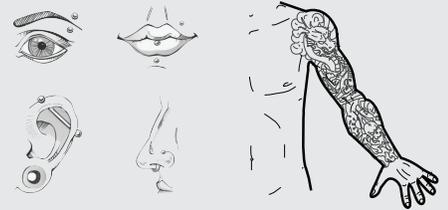


Prevention and Safety

- ▶ Do not share needles.
- ▶ Use a new syringe for each shot.
- ▶ Fitpacks are available to New School community members. Fitpacks are personal sharps containers that fit both used and new syringes. They are easy to carry and allow for safe and secure disposal of syringes. To obtain one, contact wellness@newschool.edu.

Route of exposure

Tattoos and piercing



Prevention and Safety

- ▶ All needles used for tattoos and piercing should be new, sterilized for each treatment, and properly handled by the practitioner.
- ▶ Check to make sure all practitioners have been trained in bloodborne pathogens exposure and control.
- ▶ Be an educated consumer: In NYC, businesses dedicated to tattoos and piercing must comply with health standards and recommendations and have a license to operate a business (www.nyc.gov/html/doh/downloads/pdf/hany/tattoo-manual.pdf).

What to do if exposed

If you think you have been exposed to bloodborne pathogens, seek immediate medical attention. Post exposure prophylaxis (PEP) can help prevent infection of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Hepatitis B (HBV). To be most effective, treatment should begin within hours of exposure. Visit <http://pep411.com/> for a listing of community resources where PEP is available, 24 hours per day, 7 days a week. If you are a New School student, you may also contact Medical Services at 212.229.1671, option 1. Remember: time is of the essence!

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