

Appendix L OSHA Definitions

- A. Blood means human blood, human blood components and products made from human blood.
- B. Bloodborne Pathogens means pathogenic microorganisms that are or may be present in human blood and can cause disease in humans. These pathogens include, but are not limited to, hepatitis B virus (HBV), Hepatitis C virus (HCV), and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).
- C. Engineering Controls means controls (e.g.: sharps disposal containers and self-sheathing needles) to isolate or remove the bloodborne pathogens hazard from the workplace.
- D. Occupational Exposure means reasonably anticipated skin, eye, mucous membrane or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials that may result from the performance of an employee's duties.
- E. Other Potentially Infectious Materials (OPIM) means:
 - 1. the following human body fluids: semen, vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluid, synovial fluid, pleural fluid, pericardial fluid, peritoneal fluid, amniotic fluid, saliva in dental procedures, any body fluid that is visibly contaminated with blood, and all body fluids in situations where it is difficult or impossible to differentiate between body fluids,
 - 2. any unfixed tissue or organ (other than intact skin) from a human (living or dead), and HIV-containing cell or tissue cultures, organ cultures, and HIV- or HBV-containing culture medium or other solutions; and blood, organs, or other tissues from experimental animals infected with HIV or HBV.
- F. Parenteral means piercing mucous membranes or the skin barrier through such events as needlesticks, human bites, cuts, and abrasions.
- G. Personal Protective Equipment is specialized clothing or equipment worn by an employee for protection against a hazard (e.g.: gloves, face protection, masks, gowns, etc.). General work clothes (uniforms) not intended to function as protection against a hazard are not considered to be personal protective equipment.
- H. Universal Precautions is an approach to infection control. According to the concept of Universal Precautions, all human blood and certain human body fluids are treated as if known to be infectious for HIV, HBV, and other bloodborne pathogens.

Additional definitions may be found in the text of the regulation at:

https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=standards&p_id=10051