2-32 EXPOSURE TO BLOOD OR BODY FLUIDS

2-32-1 Policy

It is the policy of the Department to ensure personnel receive the appropriate treatment when exposed to any body fluids to facilitate proper protection and follow-up care.

2-32-2 Definitions

A. Source Person

Any person that transfers body fluids by any means to Department personnel.

B. Bloodborne Pathogens

Microorganisms that can be transmitted from one person to another through blood and body fluids. This does not include spittle, urine, and fecal matter unless blood is present.

C. Biological Agents

A disease-causing microorganism or virus, or other toxic biological matter.

2-32-3 Examples

A. Exposures

Examples of exposures which may occur on the job include: human bites, needle sticks, injuries from contaminated broken glass, blood or body fluids contacting skin with unhealed cuts/injuries, blood or body fluid splashes in the eyes, nose, or mouth, incurring injuries while subduing a bleeding subject, rescue or first responder procedures given to accident or injured victims.

2-32-4 Procedures


1. Notify the supervisor on duty.

2. Contact Medcor nurse at 1-800-775-5866 available 24/7.
   a. The nurse will determine the employee’s exposure risk.

3. Follow the directives given by the nurse and Safety Officer.

4. Follow-up with Employee Occupational Health Services on the first business day following the exposure.
B. Supervisors Will

1. Respond to the exposed employee’s location.

2. Contact the Safety Officer (505-850-4511) if blood is needed for testing from the source. If the source is to be incarcerated at the Metropolitan Detention Center (MDC), the blood draw will be drawn by the medical staff on site. The Safety Officer or designee shall call for a Blood Technician for a blood borne pathogen exposure to make arrangements.

3. Coordinate with the Safety Officer regarding blood draw procedures, if the source is not going to be incarcerated.

C. Exposure to Biological Agents

1. Personnel exposed to a biological agent while on duty will:
   a. Immediately notify their supervisor;
   b. Advise communications to contact the Albuquerque Fire Rescue (AFR) Hazardous Materials Team.
   c. If the AFD Haz-Mat team is present, personnel will follow all decontamination procedures as determined by AFR personnel.
   d. The contaminated area will be secured.

D. Safety Officer Duties

1. The Safety Officer will collect information about the source person from whom a blood sample will be drawn. If the source person is to be incarcerated at the Metropolitan Detention Center (MDC), the Safety Officer will contact the medical staff and request blood to be drawn from the source person.

2. If the source person is not incarcerated at MDC, the Safety Officer will be informed of the location, physical status and a phone number of the source person. The Safety Officer will contact source person, get signed consent form (PD Form 4706) and transport if necessary to local blood draw facility.

3. If the source refuses to consent, the Safety Officer will contact City Legal to arrange for a court order.