2-32  EXPOSURE TO BLOOD OR BODILY FLUIDS

Related SOP(s), Form(s), Other Resource(s), and Rescinded Special Order(s):

A. Related SOP(s)
   None

B. Form(s)
   PD 4706 Albuquerque Police Department Infectious Disease Exposure Consent Form

C. Other Resource(s)
   NMSA 1978, § 24-2B-5.3 Informed Consent Not Required; Testing of Persons Who Are Source Individuals

D. Rescinded Special Order(s)
   None

2-32-1  Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to facilitate protection and ensure that Albuquerque Police Department (Department) personnel receive treatment when exposed to blood or bodily fluids.

2-32-2  Policy

It is the policy of the Department to provide Department personnel with preventative information about blood or bodily fluids and how to process exposures to blood or bodily fluids.

2-32-3  Definitions

A. Bloodborne Pathogens

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

B. Exposures

   Including, but not limited to: human bites; needle sticks; injuries from contaminated broken glass; blood or bodily fluids contacting skin with unhealed cuts/injuries; blood or bodily fluid splashes in the eyes, nose, or mouth; incurring injuries while subduing a
bleeding subject; and rescue or first responder procedures given to accident or injured victims.

C. Source Person

Any person who transfers blood or bodily fluid(s) by any means to Department personnel.

2-32-4 Procedures

A. Contact with Communicable Diseases

1. It is possible that in the course of their duty, Department personnel will come into physical contact with individuals infected with communicable diseases.

2. Personnel are always encouraged to use personal protective equipment when contacting all individuals and shall follow universal precautions including:

   a. Wearing surgical gloves if there is a possibility of direct contact with a person or contamination from bodily fluid(s), especially blood;
   b. Washing their hands as soon after contact as possible, or clean and disinfect contaminated skin with hand sanitizer;
      i. Clean clothing with hot water and dry on high heat (130 degrees); and
      ii. Clean equipment with an anti-bacterial cleaner or a 1:10 chlorine/bleach/water solution.

3. Exposure to Blood or Bodily Fluid(s)

   a. The supervisor of the employee who was exposed to blood or bodily fluid(s) from a source person shall notify the Safety Officer when the source person is incarcerated at the Metropolitan Detention Center (MDC) or other detention facilities.
      i. If the source person is not incarcerated at MDC or another detention facility, the exposed employee’s supervisor shall notify the Safety Officer of their location and physical status, and shall provide a phone number for the source person.
   b. The Safety Officer shall:
      i. Collect information about the source person from whom a blood sample shall be drawn; and
      ii. Contact the source person to have them sign the Infectious Disease Exposure Consent Form; and
         1. If the source person refuses to consent, the Safety Officer shall contact the Office of the City Attorney to arrange for a court order, consistent with NMSA 1978, § 24-2B-5.3.
      iii. If necessary, arrange for a transport of the source person to a local blood draw facility.
c. If blood or bodily fluid(s) from a source person have penetrated the skin or mucus membranes, such as the eyes, nose, or mouth of Department personnel, a supervisor shall be notified immediately.
   i. The supervisor shall call MedCor (1-800-775-5866) and the Safety Officer (505-850-4511). Both are available twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days per week.
   ii. The MedCor nurse will determine the employee’s exposure risk and advise them of medical treatment.

d. Department personnel shall:
   i. Follow the directives given by the MedCor nurse and Safety Officer; and
   ii. Follow up with the City of Albuquerque’s Employee Health Center. Department personnel shall bring any medical documentation related to the treatment they received on the first business day following the exposure.