Bloodborne Pathogens

Presented by
Argonaut Insurance Southeast Region, Atlanta, Georgia
Bloodborne Diseases

- HIV: Human Immunodeficiency Virus causes AIDS - no cure or vaccination
- HBV: Hepatitis B virus causes liver disease - vaccination available
- Non-A or Non-B Hepatitis
- Syphilis
- Malaria
HBV or Hepatitis

- Inflammation of the liver - most common bloodborne disease
- Symptoms range from flu-like to none at all
- No symptoms - person is infectious and can spread the disease
- Hepatitis infects about 300,000 people in USA annually
HIV or AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)

- 35,000 people are infected annually
- An infected person may carry the virus for years before symptoms appear
- No cure and no vaccine at present
Means of Transmission - Must Enter Body

- HBV, HIV virus present in blood, body fluids
- Sexual contact with an infected partner
- Sharing infected needles
- Accidentally cutting yourself with a sharp object that is contaminated with infected blood, body fluids
- Infected blood or body fluid on skin especially with open cuts, sores
- Getting contaminated blood or body fluid in eyes, mouth.
Protect Yourself

- Universal Precautions
- TREAT ALL BLOOD AND BODY FLUIDS AS POTENTIALLY INFECTIOUS.
- Skin protects from pathogens - cuts, dermatitis, chapping, small cracks allow germs to enter the body
- First aid - use gloves, have as little contact as possible with blood or body fluids
- Wash hands with antibacterial soap after contact
- After contact, flush eyes and face with fresh water for several minutes
Clean-Up and Safe Housekeeping

- After an accident, the entire area must be cleaned with disinfectant
- Cleaning equipment must be disinfected
- Wear gloves while cleaning, apron or goggles if appropriate
- Restrict access to the area
- Use disposable towels - dispose of properly
Other Exposure Hazards

- Cleaning surfaces contaminated with blood, vomit, feces
- ALWAYS wear gloves and protective apron or clothing
- Be alert for sharp objects, broken glassware, used syringes in trash
- Do not pick up broken glass - use brush or broom and dustpan
- Dispose of glass, sharp objects safely
- Laundry - bloody or contaminated linens or sharp objects
Common Sense Rules

- Wash hands & remove protective clothing before eating, drinking, smoking, handling contact lenses, applying lip balm or cosmetics
- Keep hands away from eyes, nose, mouth while cleaning
- Frequent hand washing is best defense against spreading infection
Summary

◆ Protect yourself on and off the job- know the facts

◆ Practice good personal hygiene

◆ Follow work rules, use gloves and protective clothing

◆ Wash your hands often, after work or exposure

◆ Keep areas clean - report problems immediately to supervisors