

Bloodborne Pathogens -- General Awareness

OSHA 1910.1030

The OSHA Bloodborne Pathogen Standard requires that employers protect their employees who, during the course of their job assignments, might be exposed to blood or other potentially infectious materials.

At Messiah College, these employees include, but are not limited to, nurses working in our Engle Health Care Center, staff and faculty in the Health programs, employees in Campus Events, Dining Services Leadership Team, personnel in the Safety Department, athletic coaches and athletic trainers, facility maintenance, and employees who have been trained in and are expected to provide first aid. If you are among these employees, you will be receiving additional training and offered, at no charge to you, a Hepatitis B vaccination.

For our general campus community, we want to offer the following common sense guidelines:

- Warning labels will be affixed to containers of medical waste. Red bags with the biohazard symbol may be substituted for labels. Labels will display the universal biohazard sign or the word 'Biohazard.' Do not touch these containers unless it is part of your job and you are wearing the proper protective equipment such as gloves.
- We have refrigerators located in some areas that are for storage of medications and biologicals. These refrigerators will be labeled with the biohazard label. Do NOT store food or beverages in them!
- Do not consume food or beverages, apply make-up or handle contact lenses in areas where biohazards might exist.
- **If you come across a spill of blood or body fluids, contact dispatch at ext. 6005;** dispatch will then have someone who has been properly trained respond for proper cleanup and disinfection of the area.
- And keep in mind, good hygiene practice is to **always wash your hands** before consuming food and drinks, applying cosmetics, or handling contact lenses -- **regardless of what potential exposure you might have.**

