UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS

DEFINITIONS

Bloodborne Pathogens- pathogenic microorganisms present in the human blood and other body fluids which can cause disease in humans.

Potentially Infectious Material- include:

1. human body fluids including; semen, vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluid, synovial fluid, pleural fluid, amniotic fluid, saliva
2. any body fluid/excretion that is contaminated with blood, any unfixed tissue or organ from a human (living or dead) with the exception of intact skin
3. HIV contaminated cell or tissue and organ cultures, HIV and HBV containing culture medium or other solutions, and blood/organs or other tissues from experimental animals infected with HIV or HBV.

Universal Precautions - Strict adherence to universal precautions is required in all clinical situations. Students are required to use appropriate personal protective equipment whenever contact with blood or other infectious material is expected. Personal protective equipment includes, but is not limited to, gloves, masks, gowns, face shields, and eye protection.

- **WASH** hands before and after all contact with patients. Consider all blood, visibly bloody secretions and fluids and genital secretions from ALL PATIENTS to be infectious
- **GLOVES** are required for all anticipated contact with human blood, body fluids, or mucous membranes. Double glove for surgical procedures.
- **CHANGE GLOVES** and wash your hands after each procedure and before contact with another patient.
- **WEAR MASK OR GOGGLES** when blood or body fluids may splash into your face.
- **WEAR WATERPROOF GOWN** when blood or body fluids may soak through a cloth gown.
- **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE** for properly disposing of any sharps or infectious materials you have used in designated containers.
- **N95 RESPIRATOR MASKS** are required for potential tuberculosis exposures

Definition of blood and body fluids (for bloodborne pathogens):

- Human blood and blood products
- Semen and vaginal secretions
- Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), synovial fluid, peritoneal fluid, pericardial fluid, amniotic fluid
- Saliva in dental procedures (assume blood contamination)
- Any body fluid visibly contaminated with blood
- Any unfixed human tissue or organ
- HIV-containing cell, tissue, or organ cultures or solutions, and blood, organs, or other tissues from experimental animals infected with HIV or hepatitis B virus (HBV)

Notice that other body excretions such as saliva, urine, stool, vomitus, and respiratory secretions are not included on this list (unless visibly contaminated with blood). However, many of these excretions present other infectious hazards.