

INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTROL

City of Portage
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The City of Portage recognizes that infectious disease exposure is an occupational health hazard. Infectious disease transmission is possible during many aspects of your daily work routines. The health and welfare of each employee and their family, is a joint concern of the employee and the city. While each employee is ultimately responsible for his / her own health, the City of Portage recognizes a responsibility to provide as safe a workplace as possible. The goal of this program is to provide all employees with the best available protection from occupationally acquired infectious disease.

Infectious Disease Transmission

- ⦿ Someone has an infection
- ⦿ The pathogen leaves the infected person's body
- ⦿ The pathogen reaches another person's body and enters his/her body
 - Bloodborne
 - Airborne
 - Vector
 - Direct or indirect contact
- ⦿ The second person develops the infection

Diseases of Concern

- HIV
- Hepatitis
- Tuberculosis
- Influenza



*Statistics used are 2006
data (latest available)*

*US population reached
300 million in 2006*

Human Immunodeficiency Virus

- ⦿ The virus that causes Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS)
- ⦿ Destroys the body's ability to fight off infection
- ⦿ Spread via blood
- ⦿ Transmission rates have drastically dropped in the United States
 - 1980 transmission rate was 92% (92 transmissions per 100 persons living with HIV at the time)
 - 2006 transmission rate was 5%
- ⦿ In 2006, the **estimated number** of persons living with AIDS in the United States and dependent areas was **448,871**

Hepatitis

- ⦿ A viral infections that leads to inflammation (itis) of the liver (hepar)
- ⦿ Spread via blood
- ⦿ Incidence has decreased since 1980
 - Hepatitis A (HAV) – down 88% (approx 32,000 new cases / year)
 - Hepatitis B (HBV) – down 75% (approx 46,000 new cases / year)
 - Hepatitis C (HCV) – down 89% (approx 19,000 new cases / year)
- ⦿ HCV has no known cure or immunization at this time

Tuberculosis

- Tuberculosis (TB) is a disease caused by bacteria called *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*
- Usually attacks the lungs
 - Can attack any part of the body such as the kidney, spine, and brain
- Spread through air
- Steadily declining since 1992
 - Approx 14,000 case diagnosed in 2005

Influenza

- ⦿ Influenza (the flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses.
- ⦿ Every year in the United States, on average 5% to 20% of the population gets the flu
 - more than 200,000 people are hospitalized from flu complications
 - about 36,000 people die from flu.
- ⦿ The single best way to prevent the flu is to get a flu vaccination each year
 - flu shot – an inactivated vaccine (containing killed virus)
 - The nasal-spray flu vaccine – made with live, weakened flu viruses that do not cause the flu

OSHA Standard

Requires employers to use strategies to reduce occupational exposures:

- ⦿ Engineering controls
- ⦿ Work practice controls
- ⦿ Personal protective equipment
- ⦿ Universal precautions

Engineering Controls

- Eyewash stations
- Hand washing facilities
- Sharps containers
- Biohazard labels



Work practice controls



- Use of personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Hand washing
- Decontamination and cleaning of equipment and work areas
- Safely handling sharps
- Correctly disposing of waste
- Work area restrictions

Personal Protective Equipment

- Gloves
- Jumpsuits, aprons
- Eye shields, goggles
- Face masks, face shields
- Caps
- Booties



Universal / Standard Precautions

- Assume that *all* body fluids may be infectious and *always* follow standard precautions



Protect Yourself

- ⦿ Wear your PPE
 - Gloves
 - Respiratory precaution
 - Eye protection
- ⦿ Wash your hands
- ⦿ Clean your equipment
- ⦿ Report any exposure



Questions?

