

Standard Precautions for Bloodborne Transmission



What is bloodborne transmission?

Bloodborne transmission means that a disease is spread when the blood of an infected person reaches the bloodstream of another person.

What are the Standard Precautions for bloodborne transmission?

Standard Precautions are what you should do to practice basic infection control against bloodborne diseases. Remember Standard Precautions apply to all your patients no matter what their diagnosis – even if they do not seem sick.

Standard Precautions include:

- Wash your hands after touching body fluids or contaminated items – even if you were wearing gloves
- Wash your hands whenever you remove a pair of gloves
- Wash your hands between patients
- Wear gloves whenever you touch blood, body fluids or contaminated items
- Put on clean gloves before you touch a patient's broken skin or mucous membranes
- Change gloves between tasks and patients
- Wear a gown to protect your skin and clothing from body fluids
- Remove a dirty gown as soon as possible and then wash your hands
- Wear a mask and eye protection to protect your mucous membranes from body fluids
- Keep your work environment as clean as possible by cleaning up spills and patient care areas promptly