

25.01 Blood Borne Pathogens Exposure Control Policy

1. POLICY

Powell County complies with the blood-borne pathogens guidelines outlined in 29CFR 1910.1030 to eliminate or minimize employee occupational exposure to human blood or other infectious bodily fluids.

11. APPLICABILITY

All county worksites and facilities; to include the Powell County Courthouse, Sheriff's Office, Detention Center, Landfill and Road Shops, Maintenance, Coroner

111. DEFINITIONS

Administrators-Powell County Sheriff or designee in his absence in law enforcement facility, Safety Adviser for the Courthouse, Department Head at the landfill, Coroner

Facility- All County owned facilities

Infectious Bodily Fluids- Human blood or other potentially infectious bodily fluids of any kind and feces.

Universal Precautions-All human blood or blood products and other potentially infectious body fluids are treated as if known to be infectious for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) and other blood-borne pathogens

IV. FACILITY DIRECTIVES

A. Responsibility

The Safety Adviser is responsible for providing all necessary supplies, e.g., personal protective equipment, soap, approved disinfectant cleaner, Hepatitis B vaccinations and assuring that all facilities have an Exposure Control Plan in compliance with 29 CFR 1910.1030, in all County facilities except the Law Enforcement Center. The Sheriff will be responsible for providing these items to the Law Enforcement Center. The Safety Adviser and the Sheriff will be responsible for ensuring that their employees comply with the provisions of this policy. Coroner will provide their own supplies in their private mortuary.

B. Facility Exposure Control Plans

1. Universal precautions will be observed by all employees in order to prevent contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials. All blood or other potentially infectious materials will be considered infectious regardless of the perceived status of the source individual.
2. Exposure control plans must be developed based on the individual and unique needs of the County. Plans must contain and address the following:

- a. Staff Exposure determination- identify employees positions which may, based on their duties, have exposure to air, blood-borne, and body fluid pathogens or other potentially infectious material. These positions in Powell County include All Law Enforcement staff, Land Fill employees, maintenance, coroner, and Sanitarian and all employees certified to administer First Aid and CPR.
- b. Hepatitis B Vaccine- including provisions for administering vaccine, tracking and record-keeping, post-exposure incident evaluation and follow up.
- c. Engineering and work practices controls-Eliminate or minimize exposure to all Powell County Employees.
- d. Personal Protective Equipment-including equipment provided employee use and disposal/replacement.

C. Hepatitis B Immunization

1. The Hepatitis B Vaccination will be made available, without charge, to all employees determined to be at occupational risk. Immunization of employees is not required but is encouraged, particularly for the high risk groups: Law Enforcement staff, Detention Center and Landfill employees. Maintenance, Coroner, Sanitarian

D. Hepatitis B Vaccination Administration

1. Each employee identified as at occupational risk will be provided a copy of the Hepatitis B Vaccine Disclosure form that provides information on Hepatitis B including the vaccine, side effects, indications for receiving the vaccine, contraindications and other Hepatitis diseases.
2. Each high risk employee identified will also be provided an Acceptance/Declination Statement and must elect to either receive or waive the vaccine as indicated on the disclosure form; the signed and dated form will be retained in the employee's medical file maintained in the Law Enforcement Center and the Safety Adviser's Office.
3. Employees who elect to receive the vaccination will obtain the three part vaccination series as provided in the facility exposure control plan. Employees are responsible for assuring they complete the vaccination series, following the schedule provided at the initial inoculation.
4. If an employee initially declines the Hepatitis B vaccination, but at a later date decides to accept the vaccination, the vaccination will then be made available.
5. If a routine booster dose of Hepatitis B vaccine is recommended by U.S. Public Health Service at a future date, such booster doses will be made available at no cost to the employee.
6. The Hepatitis B Vaccine will be offered to all Powell County Employees who, during the course of their employment and regular job duties, may come in contact with human blood or potentially infectious bodily fluids

E. Post-Exposure Evaluation and Follow Up

When an employee incurs an exposure incident, he/she must immediately report the incident to their supervisor. All employee exposure incidents will be reported, investigated and documented as described in the facility exposure control plan.

V. CLOSING

Provisions of this policy not required by statute will be followed unless they conflict with negotiated labor contracts which will take precedence to the extent applicable. Questions concerning this policy should be directed to the Powell County Safety Adviser or the Sheriff.

VI. REFERENCES

- A. *29 CFR 1910.1030; Occupational Safety and Health Regulation, Blood Borne Pathogens*
- B. *Powell County 2013 Blood-borne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan*