

BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS PROGRAMS

Do your employees have an occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens?

- 1) Do you have designated first aid responders?
- 2) Does your maintenance staff get involved in cleaning up the equipment after an industrial injury?
- 3) Is your janitorial staff involved in cleaning restrooms?
- 4) Do you have any employees who may need to take medical injections while at work?

If you answered yes to any of these questions then your operations fall under the jurisdiction of California Bloodborne Pathogens Standard 5139.

Here are the basic requires of employers that fall under the jurisdiction of the Bloodborne Pathogens Standard:

I. Assessment & classification of employee exposures:

- Category 1: Doctors, nurses, ambulance staff, emergency personnel, designated first aid responders.
- Category 2: Those subject to collateral exposure to blood or *OPIM* such as maintenance and janitorial staff.

II. Written Exposure Control Plan;

- Responsible person overseeing program.
- Evaluation & determination process.
- Employee training.
- Vaccinations.
- Recordkeeping.

III. Employee Training on job specific exposures and controls;

- Category 1 employees must be informed about reporting procedures and offered pre-exposure vaccine.
- Category II employees must be informed about post exposure vaccine and reporting procedures.
- All other employees should be trained to follow “*Universal Precautions*” whenever they are near blood or OPIM.

Definitions:

“*OPIM*” –

Other possible infectious material

“*Universal Precautions*”

Treat all bloodily fluids with the exception of sweat as possible infectious and do not touch the fluid without proper training, proper personal protective equipment and authorized to performed the task by your employer.

If you have any questions or wish for additional information on the California Bloodborne Standard 5139, you can find the standard on the following website: www.ca.gov.

For more information please contact:

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