

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND RADIATION SAFETY

NO. 6.8

TITLE: Exposure Determination

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ISSUED: 3/93

REVISED: 12/03

In order to assure that individuals who have an exposure potential to bloodborne pathogens receive appropriate training, information and support, it must be determined who is covered by the Temple University policy. Due to the diversity of activities at Temple University, it is impractical to identify job categories that are exposed to bloodborne pathogens. Instead, broad categories of jobs are identified realizing that not all employees in those categories have exposure potential to human blood or other potentially infectious material. The following criteria are used to determine the exposure potential to bloodborne pathogens:

- All who in the course of their employment come in contact with patients (health care workers).
- All who in the course of their employment come in contact with developmentally disabled persons.
- All who work or come in contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials.
- Safety and emergency response personnel.

The following individuals are not covered by this policy because they are not considered to be potentially exposed to bloodborne pathogens:

- Medical and nursing faculty and staff who do not come in contact with patients.
- Employees of Facilities Management including personnel involved in plumbing and in heating, ventilation and air conditioning (see Policy No. 6.6).

Individuals, who are employed by Temple University and have an exposure potential in other institutions, must inform the Environmental Health and Radiation Safety Department so that appropriate arrangements are made to assure consistency in compliance with federal and Pennsylvania regulations.

The following contains a listing of selected job categories. All administrative units will be asked to identify employees in those job categories with an exposure potential based on criteria identified in this policy.

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A. Employees having the following job classifications have occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials:

- Physicians
- Dentists, Dental Laboratory Technicians, Dental Assistants
- Nurses (Registered nurses, licensed practicing nurses)
- Nurses' Aides
- Clinical Laboratory Technologists, Technicians, and Aides
- Clinical Dental Hygienists
- Physical Therapists
- Occupational Therapists
- Sports Trainers
- Housekeeping Staff responsible for patient areas and laboratories at Temple University Health System
- Housekeeping staff responsible for laboratories where infectious materials/blood are handled
- Student Health Staff
- Occupational Health Staff
- Pathologists
- Phlebotomists
- Paramedics
- Researchers
- Blood Bank Technicians
- Security Personnel

B. Certain employees in the following job classification may have exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials:

- Faculty in the School of Medicine, Podiatry, Dentistry, and Biology
- Staff of Environmental Health and Safety
- Housekeeping staff responsible for areas related to athletes, dormitories, or where research with blood or infectious material is performed.
- Dialysis Personnel
- Facilities Management Personnel
- Biomedical Engineering
- Patient transportation personnel

List of tasks and procedures in which those listed in B. have occupational exposure:

- Contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials
- Performing patient care