

**SECTION E**

**DEFINITION**

**OF**

**TERMS**

## **D. DEFINITION OF TERMS**

**Blood** – Human blood, human blood components, and products made from human blood.

**Bloodborne Pathogens** – Pathogenic microorganisms that are present in human blood and that can cause disease in persons who exposed to blood containing these pathogens. These pathogens include, but are not limited to, hepatitis B virus (HBV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

**Contaminated** – The presence or the reasonably anticipated presence of blood or other potentially infectious materials on an item or surface.

**Contaminated Laundry** – Laundry that has been soiled with blood or other potentially infectious materials or may contain contaminated sharps.

**Contaminated Sharps** – Any contaminated object that can penetrate the skin including, but not limited to, needles, broken glass, etc.

**Decontamination** – The use of physical or chemical means to remove, inactivate, or destroy bloodborne pathogens on a surface or item to the point where they are no longer capable of transmitting infectious particles and the surface or item is rendered safe for handling, use, or disposal.

**Engineering Controls** – Controls that isolate, minimize or remove a workplace hazard.

**Exposure Incident** – A specific eye, mouth, other mucous membrane, non-intact skin, or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials that results from the performance of an employee's duties.

**Handwashing Facilities** – Facilities that provide an adequate supply of running water, soap and single use towels or hot air drying machines.

**HBV** – Hepatitis B virus.

**HIV** – Human immunodeficiency virus.

**Licensed Healthcare Professional** – A person whose legally permitted scope of practice allows him or her to independently perform the activities required by section V.

**Occupational Exposure** – Reasonably anticipated skin, eye, mucous membrane, or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials that may result from the performance of an employee's duties.

**Parenteral** – The piercing of the skin barrier, including mucous membranes, through such events as needle sticks, human bites, cuts, and abrasions.

**Personal Protective Equipment** – Specialized clothing or equipment worn by an employee to protect him or her from a hazard. General work clothes (e.g., uniforms, pants, shirts or blouses) not intended to function as protection against a hazard are not considered to be personal protective equipment.

**Regulated Waste** – Any one of the following:

- Liquid or semi-liquid blood or other potentially infectious materials.
- Contaminated items that would release blood or other potentially infectious materials in a liquid or semi-liquid state if compressed.
- Items caked with dried blood or other potentially infectious materials that are capable of releasing these materials during handling.
- Contaminated sharps.

**Source Individual** – Any individual, living or dead, whose blood or other potentially infectious materials may be a source of occupational exposure to the employee

**Sterilize** – The use of a physical or chemical procedure to destroy all microbial life including highly resistant bacterial endospores.

**Universal Precautions** – An approach to infection control in which all human blood and certain human body fluids are treated as if known to be infectious for HIV, HBV, and other bloodborne pathogens.

**Work-practice Controls** – Controls that reduce the likelihood of exposure by altering the manner in which a task is performed.