OSU’s Bloodborne Pathogen Program

What are bloodborne pathogens?
Bloodborne pathogens (BBP) are microorganisms present in blood and other potentially infectious materials (OPIM) that can cause disease in humans. The most commonly referred to BBPs are HIV, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C.

Bloodborne Pathogens Program
In 1991, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) developed the Bloodborne Pathogens Standard, 29 CFR 1910.1030. The standard is meant to protect any worker who may come into contact with blood or OPIMs as a part of their normal job duties.

OSHA Requirements
According to the standard, some of the obligations of the employer are...

- There must be a written exposure control plan (ECP) and the plan must be reviewed/updated at least annually.
- All employees covered by the standard must attend face-to-face initial training, and training must be conducted annually.
- There must be engineering and workplace controls in place.
- Personal Protective Equipment must be provided to all workers free of charge.
- Employees must be offered a Hepatitis B vaccination.

How EHS Can Help You with Your Program
EHS has a written exposure control plan template available on our website. We also have a Hepatitis B vaccination form, biohazard spill SOP, BBP self-inspection form, a sharps injury log, and important contact information available on the same website at https://ehs.okstate.edu/bloodborne-pathogen.html.

The plan can be printed and specific department information must be added to meet the standard requirements. Remember: Once you have your ECP set up, it must be reviewed/updated by the department at least annually. EHS will conduct a review of all plans every other year.

Training
EHS offers BBP training on the second Monday of each month. There are two sessions available: 9:00 am and 2:00 pm. Training takes place in the EHS conference room located at 003 UHS (in the basement of University Health Services), https://ehs.okstate.edu/safetytraining.html.

Questions?
For all questions regarding OSU’s BBP program, contact Janisue Coleman (janisue.jones@okstate.edu) at 744-7241.
Job Hazard Analysis

What is Job Hazard Analysis?
Job hazard analysis (JHA) is a method used to identify potential hazards of a job, quantify risk based on probability and severity, and identify controls to mitigate those hazards. The basic principle of JHA is to break down the work to be performed into distinct tasks, and then analyze each distinct task for potential safety hazards.

OSHA Requirements
The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) developed the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Standard, 29 CFR 1910.132 to prevent workplace injuries and illnesses by requiring employers to examine workplace operations, establish proper job procedures and PPE requirements, and ensure employees are trained properly. The requirement to assess job hazards to determine if PPE is needed means that employers must assess every potentially hazardous task.

A complete, written JHA
- Identifies hazards associated with each step of any job that has potential to cause injury.
- Determines how to control the hazards – remember that PPE is the last option!
- Produces a written tool that can be used to train other staff.
- Meets OSHA training requirements by developing procedures and work rules that are specific for each job or task.

Who should conduct a JHA?
- Staff who perform the job should always be included in the process.
- Supervisors, as they should be knowledgeable about the tasks required to perform a job, and can implement recommended changes.
- Safety personnel, engineers, environmental specialists, etc. may be included, as they may have understanding and knowledge of any regulations that may affect the job, and understand how they are implemented.

How to get started?
Start with the most hazardous job. Known hazards or previous injuries are clear indications that a job is priority for JHA. Teamwork will likely give the best results.
EHS provides a blank JHA form, additional JHA tips, and links to resources on the EHS website at https://ehs.okstate.edu/job-hazard-analysis.html.

How can EHS help with your JHA program?
Departments may contact EHS at 405-744-7241 or ohsp@okstate.edu for guidance in developing or reviewing their JHA documents. We can also assist you with hazard recognition, recommendations of controls and documenting your findings.