

# Bloodborne Pathogens and Infection Control

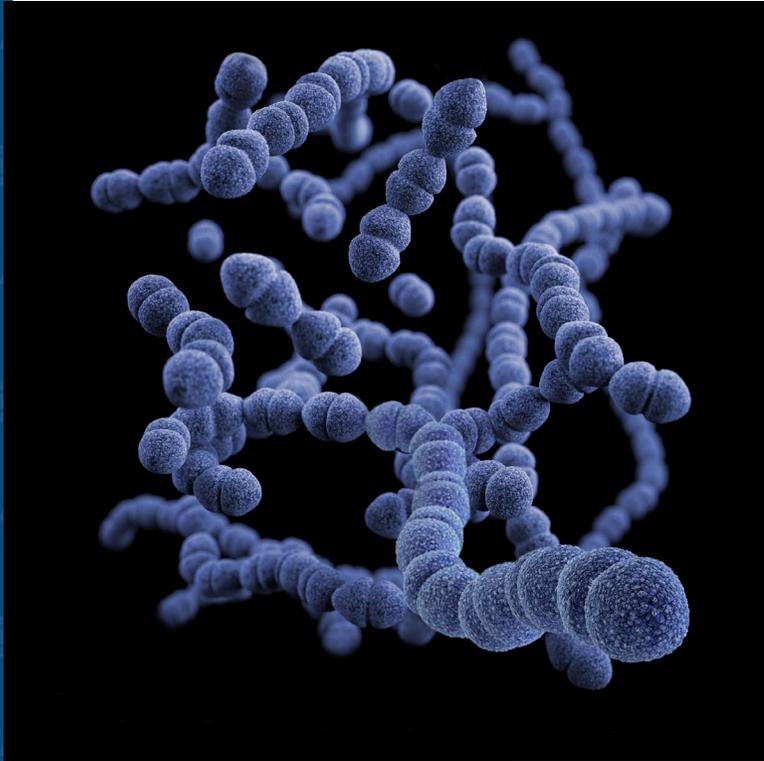


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# Communicable Diseases

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# Communicable Disease



- Caused by bacteria, virus, fungus, and parasites.
- Transmitted person to person by either direct (close contact between two people) or indirect contact (person to person through air, water, food, surfaces, or insects.)
- Carrier: a person who harbors a pathogen without observable signs or symptoms of the disease; and HAS the potential to spread the organism to others.

# Communicable Disease Examples

**Bacterial**: staph infection, tonsillitis, strep throat

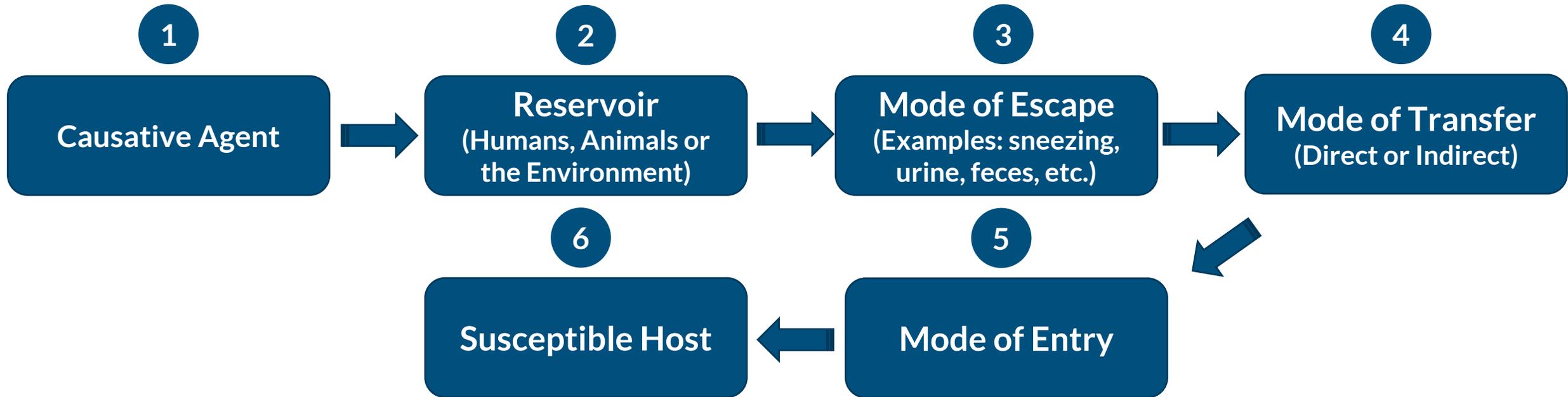
**Viral**: common cold, influenza, measles, hepatitis, shingles

**Fungal**: athlete's foot, yeast infection, nail infections, ringworm

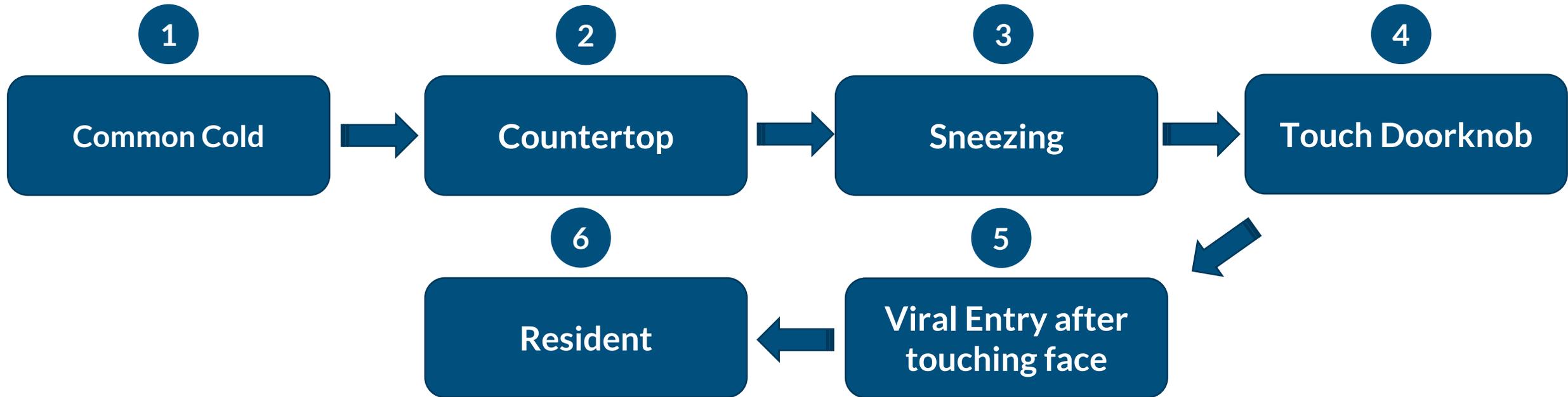
**Parasitic**: head/body lice, scabies, worms, bed bugs



# Chain of Infection



# Chain of Infection Example



# When to Wash Hands

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- When visible material is present on hands
- Before direct contact with Residents
- After removing gloves
- When bodily fluids are present
- Prior to using Medical Equipment
- After using the bathroom
- When handling ingestible items



# Washing Your Hands

1

Wet Hands



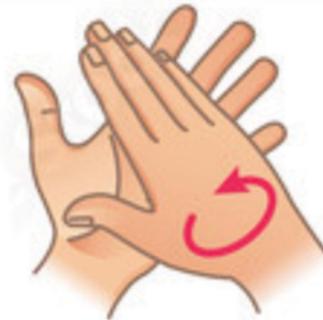
2

Apply Soap Thoroughly



3

Use Rotating/Friction Motion



4

Wash Fingers



Remember! To appropriately kill germs, wash your hands for at least 20 seconds before rinsing.

# Washing Your Hands

5

Rinse Well



6

Dry Thoroughly



# Influenza

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The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and lungs. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. The best way to prevent the flu is by getting a flu **vaccine** each year.

# What are common symptoms of Influenza?

- Fever and/or chills
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Fatigue (very tired)
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea



# Bloodborne Pathogens, Universal Precautions, and Standard Precautions

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# Definitions

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## Bloodborne Pathogens

Infectious microorganisms in the blood that can cause diseases.

- HIV
- HBV
- HCV

## Universal Precautions

Avoiding contact with resident's bodily fluids, using nonporous personal protective equipment (PPE) like gloves, goggles, and face shields. Treat all bodily fluids as if they may be infected. Other precautions include practicing good hand hygiene, coughing etiquette, and sharps safety.

## Standard Pathogens

Standards set to prevent exposure and transmission of disease in occupational settings. Includes practicing Universal Precautions and Body Substance Isolation, regardless of their presumed infection status.

# Universal Blood and Body Fluid Precautions

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You can be exposed to blood through needle sticks and other sharp injuries, through your mucous membranes, and via specific skin exposures.

Universal Precautions apply to blood and other body fluids containing visible blood.

Blood is the single most important source of bloodborne pathogens.

## Pathogens of Concern

- HIV
- HBV
- HCV

# Glove Usage

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1. Not a substitute for hand washing.
2. Not needed when contact with a resident is unlikely to involve blood.
3. Wash your hands before and after wearing any types of gloves.
4. Disposable gloves should be worn when:
  - Blood and/or body fluids are handled in any manner
  - Touching surfaces or equipment soiled by blood or body fluids
  - Handling linen and clothing soiled by blood or other body fluids

# Gloves and PPE Usage

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## 5. Utility Gloves

- Cleaning up bodily fluids
- Are reusable
- Can be discarded and disposed of.

## 6. Disposable gowns to cover skin and clothing. Can be disposed of after use.

## 7. Disposable Masks and Eye Protection

- Protects from splashes and mist
- Are disposable

# Exposure

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Occupational exposure results in a higher risk of infection.

## Occupational Exposure

- Contact
- Non-body fluids

## Significant Exposure

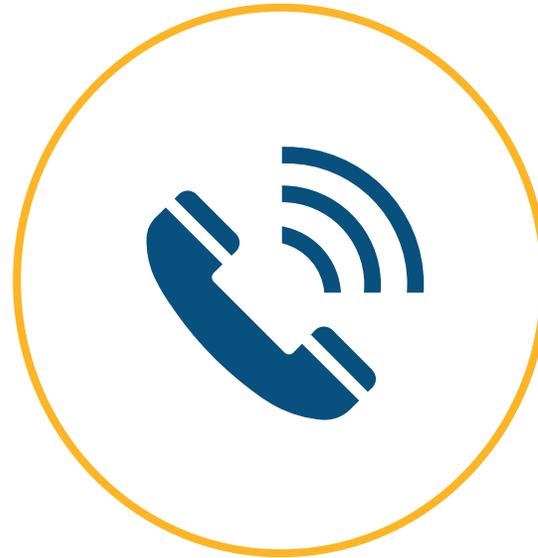
- Needles
  - Being stabbed or pricked by an unused needle does not constitute a Significant Exposure.
- Prolonged Contact
- Splashing

# Exposure Follow-Up

If you suspect a significant exposure, the following procedures are to be followed.



**Wash and Rise**



**Notify Your Supervisor**



**Follow Beacon's Policy  
as Instructed**



**Document Exposure**

# Suspected Significant Exposure

If you or a staff member is suspected of receiving significant exposure to blood or body fluids, the following procedures should be followed.



Notify Your Supervisor



Seek medical attention as  
directed.



Document Exposure

# Beacon's Exposure Policy



1. Go to the designated medical facility for post-exposure treatment (as determined by the physician).
2. Home Manager (or AHM) will complete the Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Form and fax it to Beacon's Medical Department.
3. Home Manager (or AHM) will request a lab order for the post-exposure treatment (HIV, Hepatitis C, Hepatitis Surface Antigen)
4. Once the lab order is received from the coordinating physician and consent has been obtained from the Guardian for blood work (if applicable), the Resident will be transported to the designated lab. This should take place within 24 hours post-incident.
5. If the Resident refuses to have their blood work completed: this must be documented in the electronic resident record and refusal relayed to a designated medical facility by Home Manager (or AHM).
6. Employees will follow up with the designated medical facility according to the treating physician's recommendations.
7. For the full plan, go to Beacon Basecamp (Policy [IC-006] Bloodborne Pathogen Post-Exposure)

# HIV/AIDS

HIV is the virus generally considered to be the cause of the disease AIDS.

## HIV/AIDS High-Risk Factors

1. Working with an HIV Positive Person
2. IV Drug Usage
3. High-Risk Behavior

## Transmission through:

- Blood and Blood Products
- Semen and Vaginal Secretions
- Cerebrospinal Fluid
- Synovial Fluid
- Synovial Fluid
- Pericardial Fluid
- Amniotic Fluid

# Hepatitis B

Hepatitis B is an infectious illness of the liver caused by the Hepatitis B virus. The contraction of Hepatitis B is much more common than that of HIV and is follows:

## Contaminated Blood

Injection of contaminated blood by needle, tattooing, ear piercing, or illicit drug use with a syringe

## Transfer of Infected Blood

It can also be transferred with infected blood through breaks in the surface of the skin.

## Sexual Transmission

Unprotected sex with an infected individual can lead to contraction.

## Ingestion

Infected blood that is accidentally ingested orally, or through the mucus membranes of the eyes.

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## Indirect Transfer

Indirect transfer of the infected blood from obviously soiled surfaces, or objects

The viral DNA of Hepatitis B has also been found in the saliva, tears, and urine of chronic carriers of the virus.

# Bio-Hazard Waste

- Waste that is saturated with blood and/or body fluids.
- Dispose of in the red containers labeled biohazard.
- Biohazard spill kits located in each home to use in the event of a blood and/or body fluid spill.



# Bio-Hazard Exposer

In the event of an exposure:

- Clean site well with soap and water.
- Notify supervisor immediately.
- Fill out required paperwork.
- Have labs drawn and drug screen completed.



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