Chapter 20. Occupational Infections

Bloodborne Infectious Diseases: HIV/AIDS, HEPATITIS B, HEPATITIS C

http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/bbp/

Exposures to blood and other body fluids occur across a wide variety of occupations. Health care workers, emergency response and public safety personnel, and other workers can be exposed to blood through needlestick and other sharps injuries, mucous membrane, and skin exposures. The pathogens of primary concern are the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), hepatitis B virus (HBV), and hepatitis C virus (HCV).

Infectious Diseases


The primary routes of infectious disease transmission in US healthcare settings are contact, droplet, and airborne. Direct contact transmission involves the transfer of infectious agents to a susceptible individual through physical contact with an infected individual. Indirect contact transmission occurs when infectious agents are transferred to a susceptible individual when the individual makes physical contact with contaminated items and surfaces.

Occupational Infections

http://www.haz-map.com/infect.htm

A method of classifying occupational infections is used because it provides the means to link diseases and occupations in the Haz-Map database.

Health Workers

http://www.who.int/occupational_health/topics/hcworkers/en/

A health care facility is a workplace as well as a place for receiving and giving care. Health care facilities around the world employ over 59 million workers who are exposed to a complex variety of health and safety hazards every day.