

HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER HANDBOOK OF OPERATING PROCEDURES

Chapter 8	Health and Safety	Effective:	June 2000
Section 8.1	Bloodborne Pathogens Policy	Revised:	September 2005
Policy 8.1.5	Interaction with Patients with Bloodborne Pathogens	Responsibility:	Vice President for Research

INTERACTION WITH PATIENTS WITH BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

Responsibilities

Entry into the healthcare professions is a privilege offered to those who are prepared for a lifetime of service to the ill. Students, faculty, and healthcare staff have a fundamental responsibility to provide care to all patients assigned to them, regardless of diagnosis. A failure to accept this responsibility violates a basic tenet of the medical profession: to place the patient's interests and welfare first.

Individuals who feel that their activities within the Health Science Center pose a special risk to their health because of exposure to bloodborne pathogen-infected patients, working conditions presenting a risk of exposure to bloodborne pathogens, or the presence of a bloodborne pathogen infection in the individual himself or herself, should seek the assistance of their immediate supervisor.

Infection Policy and Education Committee

The Health Science Center has established an Infection Policy and Education Committee that exists as a resource to address issues related to bloodborne pathogen infection on a case-by-case basis in the Health Science Center. The Committee serves as an advisory body to the Executive Committee of the Health Science Center and may arbitrate concerns or provide recommendations for the resolution of these infection-related issues.
