

Medical Surveillance for Columbia University Personnel Potentially exposed to Bloodborne Pathogens

You are receiving this document because your Supervisor/Principal Investigator/Department Administrator has determined that you may be at potential risk of occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens, and has scheduled you for pre-placement medical surveillance.

The Columbia University Bloodborne Pathogen Program seeks to minimize exposure to bloodborne pathogens through training, safe work practices and enrollment in a medical surveillance program. Full details are provided in the Columbia University Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan (ECP) <https://research.columbia.edu/system/files/EHS/Policies/BBPECP.pdf>

Action is required on your part:

1. Review **Appendix A** in the Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan (ECP) which lists “at risk” tasks or procedures and job classifications in which “occupational exposure” might occur. **Appendix A** also provides a list of biological materials that can contain bloodborne pathogens <https://research.columbia.edu/system/files/EHS/Policies/BBPECP.pdf>. Review this list with your Supervisor or Principal Investigator if you have any questions.
2. Enroll in the University’s medical surveillance program. All Faculty, Staff and Students with reasonably anticipated exposure to human blood, blood products, or other potentially infectious material capable of transmitting HIV, HBV, HCV and other bloodborne diseases, are offered the Hepatitis B vaccine. The vaccine is offered at no cost. You will be asked to sign an acceptance or declination of vaccination. If you decline vaccination, you can change your mind at any time.
3. Get trained. Training courses are offered, based on job classification.
 - a. TC4850 (Bloodborne Pathogen & Biosafety Initial Training) is required for work in a laboratory setting. Laboratory staff must take initial training and annual refresher training (TC0509) thereafter in RASCAL.
 - b. TC0025 (Bloodborne pathogen and infection control training) is required for personnel in human research studies and clinical settings. This is an online course in RASCAL taken annually.
 - c. TC1950 (Bloodborne Pathogen and Biological Safety Awareness for Intercollegiate Athletics and Physical Education) is required for Athletics and Physical Education personnel administering injections, administering first aid, and laundering blood-soaked athletic wear and towels. This is an online course in RASCAL taken annually.
 - d. Facilities workers participate in any Facilities Compliance-related training. Ask your supervisor to schedule.
4. Seek immediate medical attention if a potential exposure to bloodborne pathogens has occurred. During business hours report to your respective campus provider. After hours report to the nearest emergency room. Notify your Supervisor or Principal Investigator and complete an accident report form (<https://humanresources.columbia.edu/sites/default/files/content/Workplace/Printable%20Accident%20Report%20Form%20Jan%202020.docx>). More guidance provided on a Print & Go sheet <https://research.columbia.edu/sites/default/files/content/EHS/Homepage/bbpPrintAndGo.pdf>.

Questions about the Columbia University Bloodborne Pathogen Program can be addressed to Environmental Health and Safety email biosafety@columbia.edu.