

2008 EPINet Report: Blood and Body Fluid Exposures

International Healthcare Worker Safety Center University of Virginia

Reporting period: Jan 01, 2008 to Dec 31, 2008

Facility where occurred: ALL
Type facility where occurred: ALL
Dept where occurred: ALL
Home department: ALL
Job category: ALL
Where the exposure occurred: ALL
Identified source patient: ALL
Body fluid involved: ALL
Body fluid contaminated with blood: ALL
Was the exposure the result of? ALL

Hospital & rate information:

- Total # hospitals contributing data = 33 (10 teaching, 23 non-teaching)
- **Total # BBF exposures reported: 371**
- Average daily census (ADC), all hospitals combined: 4920
- **Blood and body fluid (BBF) exposure rate, all hospitals: 7.5 per 100 occupied beds**
- **Teaching hospitals:** total BBFs =296; total ADC=3904; BBF exposure rate= 7.6 per 100 occupied beds
- **Non-teaching hospitals:** total BBF exposures=75; ADC=1016; BBF exp. rate= 7.4 per 100 occupied beds

5. Job category:

1 Doctor (attending/staff) List specialty	17	4.6%
2 Doctor (intern/resident/fellow) List specialty	18	4.9%
3 Medical Student	3	0.8%
4 Nurse	197	53.5%
5 Nursing Student	6	1.6%
6 Respiratory Therapist	12	3.3%
7 Surgery Attendant	12	3.3%
8 Other Attendant	8	2.2%
9 Phlebotomist/Venipuncture/IV Team	9	2.4%
10 Clinical Laboratory Worker	10	2.7%
11 Technologist (non lab)	29	7.9%
14 Housekeeper	3	0.8%
15 Other, describe	28	7.6%
16 Paramedic	2	0.5%
17 Other Student	3	0.8%
18 CNA/HHA	9	2.4%
20 Security	2	0.5%

Total Records: 368

6. Where did the exposure occur?

1 Patient Room/Ward	130	35.2%
2 Outside Patient Room	6	1.6%
3 Emergency Department	41	11.1%
4 Intensive/Critical Care Unit	59	16.0%
5 Operating Room/Recovery	60	16.3%
6 Outpatient Clinic/Office	8	2.2%
10 Procedure Room	32	8.7%
11 Clinical Laboratories	10	2.7%
12 Autopsy/Pathology	2	0.5%
13 Service/Utility Area	1	0.3%

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Page 1 of 4

EPINet Report for Blood and Body Fluid Exposures

14 Other, describe	12	3.3%
16 Labor and Delivery Room	6	1.6%
17 Home-care	2	0.5%
Total Records: 369		

7. Was the source patient identifiable?

1 Yes	361	98.1%
2 No	3	0.8%
3 Unknown	4	1.1%
Total Records: 368		

8. Which body fluids were involved in the exposure?

Blood or blood products	246	66.3%
Vomit	11	3.0%
Sputum	37	10.0%
Saliva	22	5.9%
CSF	0	0.0%
Peritoneal	15	4.0%
Pleural	4	1.1%
Amniotic	4	1.1%
Urine	23	6.2%
BFOther	62	16.7%
Total Records: 371		

8a. Was the body fluid visibly contaminated with blood?

1 Yes	227	66.8%
2 No	87	25.6%
3 Unknown	26	7.6%
Total Records: 340		

9. Was the exposed part?

Intact Skin	124	33.4%
Non-Intact Skin	45	12.1%
Eyes (Conjunctiva)	249	67.1%
Nose (Mucosa)	19	5.1%
Mouth (Mucosa)	53	14.3%
Other Exposed Parts	10	2.7%
Total Records: 371		

10. Did the blood or body fluid?

Touch Unprotected Skin	224	85.5%
Touch Skin Between Gap in Protective Garment	31	11.8%

EPINet Report for Blood and Body Fluid Exposures

Soaked through Protective Garment	0	0.0%
Soaked through Clothing	7	2.7%
Total Records: 262		

11. Which barrier items were worn at the time of exposure?

Single Pair of Gloves	264	71.2%
Double Pair of Gloves	25	6.7%
Goggles	9	2.4%
Eyeglasses, (not protective)	36	9.7%
Eyeglasses with Sideshields	5	1.3%
Faceshield	18	4.9%
Surgical Mask	49	13.2%
Surgical Gown	66	17.8%
Plastic Apron	0	0.0%
Labcoat, Cloth, (not protective)	8	2.2%
Labcoat, Other	3	0.8%
Other	22	5.9%
Total Records: 371		

12. Was the exposure the result of?

1 Direct patient contact	192	52.0%
2 Specimen container leaked/spilled	22	6.0%
3 Specimen container broke	4	1.1%
4 IV tubing/bag/pump leaked/broke	31	8.4%
5 Other body fluid container spilled/leaked	25	6.8%
6 Touched contaminated equipment/surface	5	1.4%
7 Touched contaminated drapes/sheets/gown	1	0.3%
8 Unknown	1	0.3%
9 Other, describe	51	13.8%
10 Feeding/ventilator/other tube separated/leaked/spilled	37	10.0%
Total Records: 369		

13. For how long was the blood or body fluid in contact with your skin or mucous membranes?

1 Less than 5 minutes	301	82.5%
2 5-14 minutes	41	11.2%
3 15 minutes to 1 hr	20	5.5%
4 More than 1 hr	3	0.8%
Total Records: 365		

14. How much blood/body fluid came in contact with your skin or mucous membranes?

1 Small amount (up to 5 cc)	306	86.0%
2 Moderate amount (up to 50 cc)	32	9.0%

EPINet Report for Blood and Body Fluid Exposures

3 Large amount (more than 50 cc)	18	5.1%
Total Records: 356		

15a. Exposure location: Largest exposure

Arm	19	5.7%
Face/Head	259	77.8%
Front	5	1.5%
Hand, left	17	5.1%
Hand, right	28	8.4%
Leg	5	1.5%
Total Records: 333		

15b. Exposure location: Middle exposure

Arm	10	9.1%
Face/Head	82	74.5%
Foot	1	0.9%
Front	4	3.6%
Hand, left	11	10.0%
Hand, right	1	0.9%
Leg	1	0.9%
Total Records: 110		

15c. Exposure location: Smallest exposure

Arm	9	29.0%
Face/Head	16	51.6%
Front	1	3.2%
Hand, left	3	9.7%
Hand, right	1	3.2%
Leg	1	3.2%
Total Records: 31		