

# 2009 EPINet Report: Blood and Body Fluid Exposures

International Healthcare Worker Safety Center  
University of Virginia

Reporting period: Jan 01, 2009 to Dec 31, 2009  
 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 = 32 (9 teaching, 23 non-teaching)
- Total # BBF exposures reported: 329
- Average daily census (ADC), all hospitals combined: 4440
- Blood and body fluid (BBF) exposure rate, all hospitals: 7.4 per 100 occupied beds
- Teaching hospitals: total BBFs =261; total ADC=3321; BBF exposure rate= 7.9 per 100 occupied beds
- Non-teaching hospitals: total BBF exposures=68; ADC=1120; BBF exp. rate= 6.1 per 100 occupied beds

## 5. Job category:

1 Doctor (attending/staff) List specialty	23	7.0%
2 Doctor (intern/resident/fellow) List specialty	12	3.7%
4 Nurse	168	51.4%
5 Nursing Student	3	0.9%
6 Respiratory Therapist	15	4.6%
7 Surgery Attendant	13	4.0%
8 Other Attendant	10	3.1%
9 Phlebotomist/Venipuncture/IV Team	7	2.1%
10 Clinical Laboratory Worker	5	1.5%
11 Technologist (non lab)	27	8.3%
14 Housekeeper	3	0.9%
15 Other, describe	19	5.8%
16 Paramedic	5	1.5%
17 Other Student	1	0.3%
18 CNA/HHA	8	2.4%
20 Security	8	2.4%

Total Records: 327

## 6. Where did the exposure occur?

1 Patient Room/Ward	115	35.0%
2 Outside Patient Room	9	2.7%
3 Emergency Department	50	15.2%
4 Intensive/Critical Care Unit	59	17.9%
5 Operating Room/Recovery	55	16.7%
6 Outpatient Clinic/Office	5	1.5%
7 Blood Bank	2	0.6%
10 Procedure Room	15	4.6%
11 Clinical Laboratories	3	0.9%
13 Service/Utility Area	1	0.3%
14 Other, describe	7	2.1%

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16 Labor and Delivery Room 8 2.4%  
Total Records: 329

## 7. Was the source patient identifiable?

1 Yes	311	95.4%
2 No	11	3.4%
3 Unknown	1	0.3%
4 N/A	3	0.9%

Total Records: 326

## 8. Which body fluids were involved in the exposure?

Blood or blood products	229	69.6%
Vomit	12	3.6%
Sputum	39	11.9%
Saliva	38	11.6%
CSF	0	0.0%
Peritoneal	7	2.1%
Pleural	5	1.5%
Amniotic	6	1.8%
Urine	13	4.0%
BFOther	58	17.6%

Total Records: 329

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

1 Yes	197	67.7%
2 No	65	22.3%
3 Unknown	29	10.0%

Total Records: 291

## 9. Was the exposed part?

Intact Skin	159	48.3%
Non-Intact Skin	38	11.6%
Eyes (Conjunctiva)	205	62.3%
Nose (Mucosa)	26	7.9%
Mouth (Mucosa)	44	13.4%
Other Exposed Parts	14	4.3%

Total Records: 329

## 10. Did the blood or body fluid?

Touch Unprotected Skin	292	92.7%
Touch Skin Between Gap in Protective Garment	16	5.1%
Soaked through Protective Garment	4	1.3%

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Soaked through Clothing	3	1.0%
Total Records: 315		

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

Single Pair of Gloves	213	64.7%
Double Pair of Gloves	33	10.0%
Goggles	5	1.5%
Eyeglasses, (not protective)	48	14.6%
Eyeglasses with Sideshields	6	1.8%
Faceshield	10	3.0%
Surgical Mask	45	13.7%
Surgical Gown	67	20.4%
Plastic Apron	1	0.3%
Labcoat, Cloth, (not protective)	7	2.1%
Labcoat, Other	0	0.0%
Other	28	8.5%
Total Records: 329		

### 12. Was the exposure the result of?

1 Direct patient contact	199	60.5%
2 Specimen container leaked/spilled	12	3.6%
3 Specimen container broke	1	0.3%
4 IV tubing/bag/pump leaked/broke	27	8.2%
5 Other body fluid container spilled/leaked	13	4.0%
6 Touched contaminated equipment/surface	7	2.1%
7 Touched contaminated drapes/sheets/gown	1	0.3%
8 Unknown	3	0.9%
9 Other, describe	40	12.2%
10 Feeding/ventilator/other tube separated/leaked/spilled	26	7.9%
Total Records: 329		

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

1 Less than 5 minutes	265	81.3%
2 5-14 minutes	37	11.3%
3 15 minutes to 1 hr	16	4.9%
4 More than 1 hr	8	2.5%
Total Records: 326		

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

1 Small amount (up to 5 cc)	280	86.4%
2 Moderate amount (up to 50 cc)	30	9.3%
3 Large amount (more than 50 cc)	14	4.3%

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Total Records: 324

## 15a. Exposure location: Largest exposure

Arm	22	7.4%
Face/Head	226	76.1%
Front	6	2.0%
Hand, left	17	5.7%
Hand, right	23	7.7%
Leg	3	1.0%

Total Records: 297

## 15b. Exposure location: Middle exposure

Arm	5	4.2%
Face/Head	97	82.2%
Foot	2	1.7%
Front	2	1.7%
Hand, left	2	1.7%
Hand, right	9	7.6%
Leg	1	0.8%

Total Records: 118

## 15c. Exposure location: Smallest exposure

Arm	9	28.1%
Face/Head	10	31.3%
Front	6	18.8%
Hand, left	5	15.6%
Hand, right	2	6.3%

Total Records: 32