

#### Who is OSHA?

Occupational Safety and Health Admin.

 Requires employers to provide a safe working environment

• Developed "Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogen" Standard

### Standard Requirements

- Limit occupational exposure to human blood and other potentially infectious materials in the work place
- Provide employee with knowledge of job associated risks
- Provide protective devices/measures that can prevent most exposures
- Written Exposure Control Plan on line
- Annual training —on line



# What are bloodborne pathogens?



 Pathogenic microorganisms in the blood or other potentially infectious materials
 (OPIM) which can cause disease in humans

• Exposure can result in serious illness or death

#### Who's at risk?

• Anyone with reasonably anticipated skin, eye, mucous membrane, or percutaneous contact with blood or OPIM.



## How are bloodborne diseases transmitted?

- Contaminated sharps injuries (needle sticks, broken glass, scalpel blades)
- Mucous membrane splash (eye, mouth, nose)



• Contact on non intact skin (cuts, rash, blisters, hangnails)







- Human blood and human blood components
- Semen
- Vaginal secretions



- Amniotic, pericardial, pleural, peritoneal, synovial and cerebrospinal fluids
- Saliva in dental procedures
- Any body fluid that is visibly contaminated with blood
- Any unfixed tissue or organ





## Bloodborne Pathogens of Concern

- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis C
  - HIV



#### Hepatitis B

- A virus that infects the liver
- Can lead to cirrhosis, liver cancer and death
- 20% risk of infection from a contaminated sharp
- Virus can survive in dried blood up to 7 days



## Symptoms of Hepatitis B

- Fatigue
- Loss of appetite, nausea
- Jaundice (yellowing of skin and eyes)
- Fever
- Abdominal pain, joint pain
- May have no symptoms
- Preventable



#### Hepatitis B Vaccine

- Recommended for all high risk groups
- Free- provided by employee health
- Safe
- 3 shots- initial, 1mo, 6mo.
- Decline- must sign OSHA waiver



### Hepatitis C

- Most common chronic blood borne infection in US
- 65% of HCV cases were born between 1945 and 1975
- Causes liver damage, cirrhosis and liver cancer
- Leading reason for liver transplants



### Symptoms of Hepatitis C

• Similar to Hepatitis B

May occur within 2 weeks to many years

• 50% don't know they are infected

#### Hepatitis C Vaccine

- There is NO vaccine
- Treatment available after infection, 95% cure rate
- There are ~400,000 needlesticks annually related to HCV infected patients

ZAGGIN







- Attacks the body's immune system
- Unable to fight off other infections
- NO vaccine and NO cure



• Average of 40,000 newly diagnosed cases each year in the U.S.





### Symptoms of HIV

• Mild flu-like symptoms initially (fever, swollen glands)

 May be free of symptoms for months to many years

Eventually leads to AIDS and death

# Risk of Infection after Occupational Exposure

• Hepatitis B ~20% if no history of vaccination

• Hepatitis C  $\sim 2\%$ 

• HIV ~0.2%



## How can I protect myself?

 Standard Precautions- All blood and body fluids are treated as if infectious for blood borne pathogens

Personal protective equipment

Safe work practices

Engineering controls



# Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Provides a barrier between you and infectious material



• Should be available in appropriate size and type needed, at no cost to employee





# PPE Selection Based on Anticipated Exposure

- Gloves- any time contact with blood or other body fluids may occur
- Masks and eye protection- if there is any chance of splashing into the mouth nose or eyes
- Gowns/lab coats, shoe covers- risk of splattering or spilling on clothes or skin



#### Safe Work Practice

- Depends on you!
- Examples proper handwashing,





getting Hep B vaccines
proper handling of sharps
proper disposal of infectious
waste

-wearing appropriate PPE

### **Handling Sharps**



- Needles should NOT be bent, recapped, removed, or broken
- Use tongs, or dust pan and broom to pick up contaminated broken glass (not hands!)
- Discard all needles and sharps
   in closable, leak proof, puncture
   resistant sharps containers



### **Engineering Controls**

• Devices that reduce employee risk by isolating or removing the hazard

Examples:

Sharps containers

Safety medical devices

Negative pressure rooms





#### **WARNING:**

DO NOT OVERFILL OR FORCE SHARPS INTO CONTAINER!!

Change when no more than 2/3 full

## Needlestick Safety and Prevention Act

- •OSHA Mandates adoption of safety devices
- •Engineering and work practice controls shall be used to eliminate or minimize employee exposure

# International Biohazardous Waste Symbol



#### **Biohazardous Waste**

- Discard contaminated sharps in approved sharps containers
- Discard all other infectious material in red biohazard trash bags
- Picked up by biohazard waste technicians
- Incinerated
- Do NOT throw regular trash in red bags!



## **Blood or OPIM Spill Procedure**

- Prevent accidental exposure to others
- Wear appropriate PPE
- Absorb spill (paper towels or biohazard spill kit)
- Spray approved disinfectant or 1:10 bleach solution,
  - set for 10 min. or air dry
- Dispose of all cleaning materials and PPE in biohazard trash bag

## What if I am exposed?

Wash with soap and water



- Splash to mucous membranes- rinse or flush with water for 15 min.
- Have source patient remain available
- Notify your supervisor



#### Who needs to know?



#### **Contact:**

ECU Office of Prospective Health

252-744-2070

Contact ECU Health if exposed at hospital (After hours contact ECU Health Nursing Coordinator)

252-847-4386

For exposure at ECU

After 5 pm, on weekends or holidays, use the ECU Health Emergency Department for follow-up.

See ECU Infection Control Policy for Source Patient Evaluation Algorithm

### Post Exposure Surveillance

- Review medical history of source patient
- Baseline blood tests HEP B & C and HIV of source patient
- HIV results in less than 2 hrs
- Confidentiality is maintained



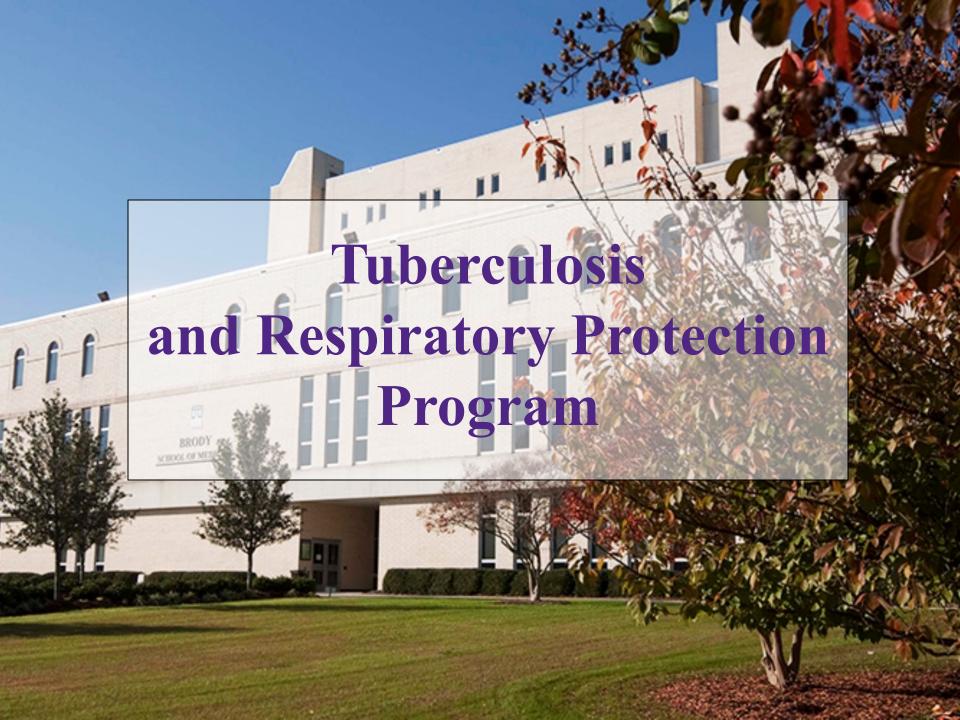


## Post – Exposure Followup for ECU Employees

• Baseline labs drawn 6 wks, 3 mo, and 6 mo

• Evaluation for post exposure prophylaxis (PEP)

• PEP reduces risk of infection up to 80%



#### **Transmission**

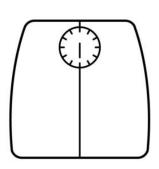
- Caused by a tiny germ called *mycobacterium tuberculosis*
- Spread when some one with active TB disease coughs, talks, laughs, sneezes, or spits TB bacteria into the air
- Uninfected person breathes in TB bacteria





## Signs & Symptoms

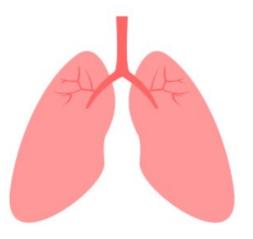
- Cough > 2weeks
- Fever
- Weight loss
- Night sweats
- Bloody sputum





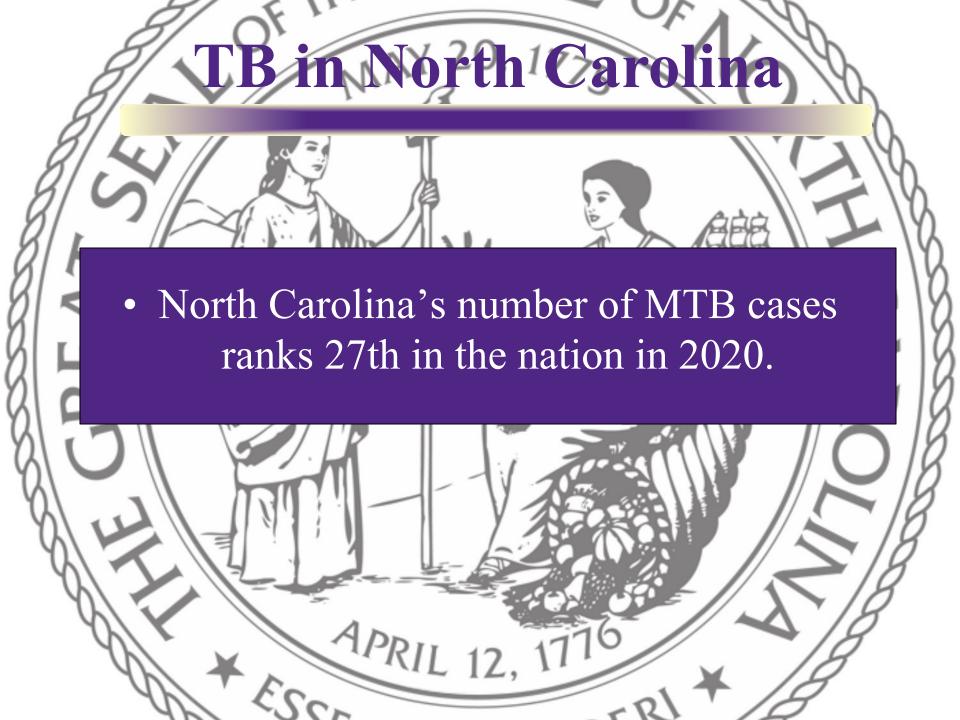
#### High Risk for TB

- Immunocompromised
- People living in close conditions
- Economically disadvantaged
- Foreigners



#### MTB in the World

- Six countries in Asia account for more than 50% of TB epidemic
  - India
  - China
  - Bangladesh
  - Pakistan
  - Indonesia
  - the Philippines



#### **TB** Testing

- A TB skin test or PPD will show if you have any TB bacteria in your body.
- All employees that are potentially exposed to TB are required to receive a skin test annually and/or complete a symptom screen.





LATENT TB INFECTION	ACTIVE TB DISEASE
Exposed to active TB disease	Infection has progressed to active disease
Positive TB skin test	Positive TB skin test
No symptoms	Will have symptoms
Negative chest xray	Positive chest xray
WILL NOT INFECT OTHERS	CAN INFECT OTHERS

### What if I have Latent TB Infection?

- 90% of healthy people with TB infection will never develop TB disease.
- Should be evaluated for prophylaxis medications by the health department or a private physician.
- Prophylaxis meds reduce lifetime risk of developing active TB disease by 95%
- Be aware of signs and symptoms of active TB disease

### Multi-drug resistant TB strains (MDR TB)

- Occurs when patients do not complete treatment; all TB germs in body not killed
- Occurs when TB germs mutate, can survive standard TB treatment
- Difficult to diagnose, control, and cure
- MDR-TB becoming more prevalent



# How do Healthcare Workers avoid exposure to TB?

- Notice if patients have symptoms of TB and offer tissues and masks.
- Utilize "negative pressure" rooms to prevent the spread of tuberculosis
- Patient should wear mask outside room and during transport to other departments
- All employees who work with potential TB patients must be fit tested for an approved respirator to wear when working with infectious individuals.

#### N-95 Respirator

Remember your size

• Fit testing is required annually



Done during new employee orientation and annually

#### N-95 Respirator

Notify Prospective Health of facial changes:

large amount of weight gain or loss

facial trauma and/or surgery growth or shaving of beard

If unable to wear mask, you will be instructed in the use of a PAPR.

### Power Air-Purifying Particulate Respirators (PAPR)



## What do I do if I'm exposed to TB at work?

- You are notified by Infection Control of suspected/confirmed exposure to patients seen in your area that have been diagnosed with TB
- After notification, call Employee Health to schedule a TB skin test.
- A TB skin test is done at the time of exposure and 2 months after the exposure

#### **TB Exposure Continued**

If you develop a positive TB skin test after workplace exposure:

You will be evaluated for active TB with a CXR and presence of symptoms

You will be treated with preventive medication

### Office of Prospective Health THE BRODY SCHOOL OP MEDICINE AT EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY



