Protect yourself.

Protect your family.

Protect the public.

How can a correctional health care worker be exposed to bloodborne pathogens on the job?

• Needlesticks or cuts from used needles or sharps.
• Contact of your eyes, nose, mouth, or broken skin with blood.
• Assaults – bites, cuts, or knife wounds.
• Splashes or punctures – especially when drawing blood.

What should you do if you’re exposed?

• Wash needlesticks and cuts with soap and water.
• Flush splashes to nose, mouth, or skin with water.
• Irrigate eyes with clean water, saline, or sterile wash.
• Report all exposures promptly to ensure that you receive appropriate followup care.

How can you protect yourself?

• Get the hepatitis B vaccine.
• Read and understand your employer’s Exposure Control Plan.
• Dispose of used sharps promptly into an appropriate sharps disposal container.
• Use sharps devices with safety features whenever possible.
• Use personal protective equipment (PPE), such as gloves and face shields, every time there is a potential for exposure to blood or body fluids.
• Clean work surfaces with germicidal products.

For additional information:

• Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
  Telephone: 1–800–CDC–INFO
  TTY: 1–888–232–6348
  www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/bp.html

• National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)
  Telephone: 1–800–CDC–INFO
  TTY: 1–888–232–6348
  www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/bbp/correctional

Protect yourself today—be there for your family tomorrow.

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