FIRST AID

1. Blood and certain body fluids must be treated as potentially infectious (universal precautions; Title 8, section 5193). The hepatitis B virus and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) are the most virulent examples. Occupational transmission of HIV is relatively rare. The greatest risk workers face is the threat of infection posed by the hepatitis B virus.
2. Where there is a potential of exposure, appropriate protective clothing or equipment must be used.
3. Keep an infection control kit and personal protective equipment (gloves, eye and face protection, gown or apron as needed, and a CPR barrier device) readily accessible wherever first aid may be rendered.
4. Wear disposable gloves (nitrile or other appropriate material; non-latex gloves must be available for employees with latex sensitivity).
5. Re-glove as soon as practical after contamination.
6. Avoid cross contamination. If your gloves or hands have become contaminated THINK BEFORE YOU TOUCH. Decontaminate any surfaces you may have touched with an EPA-registered disinfectant or a freshly prepared bleach solution, as specified in the employer's Exposure Control Plan.
7. If you are working with another person, work "clean and dirty". One person should avoid contamination. That person should convey supplies, equipment, etc. to the treating person in such a manner as to avoid becoming contaminated themselves.
8. Other regulated waste should be placed in containers which are closeable, puncture resistant and leak proof, and labeled or color-coded with the biohazard symbol.
9. Dispose of all regulated waste in accordance with state and federal regulations or call the Department of Safety & Environmental Affairs at x4-2890.
10. If called into a rescue situation immediately assess the area for hazards. You can't help others if you become injured. As far as practical have the area secured from hazards before proceeding. If you need help from security, the safety department, or others call immediately for assistance.
11. Any exposure incident (contact of blood or other potentially infectious material with the eyes, mouth, mucous membranes or broken skin) must be reported immediately. The exposed employee must be offered a confidential post-exposure medical evaluation and follow-up, and hepatitis B vaccination where required.
12. Employers must provide first aid supplies and trained first-aid personnel as required by Title 8 (section 3400 for general industry; section 1512 for construction) and must train designated first aid providers in bloodborne pathogen precautions.