



Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens

Washington has adopted the federal bloodborne pathogen standard for general injury workplaces and has adopted stricter standards and requirements for the following:

1. Exposure Control Plan ([WAC 296-823-11010](#))
2. Hepatitis B Vaccination ([WAC 296-823-13005](#))
3. Contaminated Sharps Handling ([WAC 296-823-14010](#))

The Department of Labor & Industries has performed surveys, audits and inspection in many Washington Hospitals. Common problems found on L&I inspections are:

1. **Exposure Control Plan (ECP)** is incomplete or not established.
2. **Personal protective equipment (PPE)** not provided or not used properly.

The Remedy – how to avoid or address the problems:

1. ECP includes all elements in [WAC 296-823-11005](#) through [WAC 296-823-11010](#) and is accessible to employees at all times.
 - a. Sample of ECP <http://www.lni.wa.gov/safety/rules/chapter/823/>
 - b. Include PPE hazard assessment in the BBP exposure control plan.
 - c. Update ECP annually to reflect changes to employee tasks
2. Perform a PPE assessment as required by [WAC 296-800-160](#), to identify hazards or potential hazards in workplace and determine if PPE is necessary for the job.
 - a. Hazard Assessment Checklist [WAC 296-800-16005](#) & [296-800-16010](#).
3. Follow the specific requirements for providing and using PPE, such as those requirements found in [WAC 296-823-150](#).
 - a. Provide and make sure that PPE is used when there is occupational exposure.
 - b. Maintain and properly dispose of PPE.



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**Make sure to have a
working Exposure
Control Plan**

**Provide necessary PPEs
to employees for BBP
and OPIM**

Provide PPE use training

**Maintain and properly
dispose of PPEs**

But most of all, Be Safe!

