

GERMS CAN LIVE IN BLOOD.



Learn about bloodborne pathogens.

Risk

Healthcare workers do tasks that involve blood:

- IVs
- Surgery
- Wound care
- Blood draws
- Injections

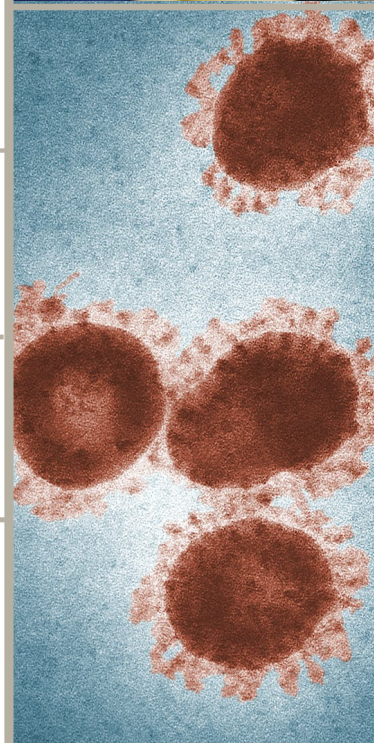
Blood can be on surfaces and linens.



Germ

Viruses that can be found in blood

- Hepatitis B (Hep B)
- Hepatitis C (Hep C)
- Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)



Facts

Hepatitis B

- Remains infectious on environmental surfaces for at least 7 days.
- Has an effective vaccine. Get vaccinated!

Hepatitis C

- Has no vaccine.
- Spread is related to inadequate infection prevention practices.

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

- Causes acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS).
- Is spread through sexual contact, and exposure to infected blood.
- Has no cure.



Infection Control Actions

Actions you can take:

- Clean your hands.
- Washing of skin with soap and water when contact to blood and body fluids.
- Clean and disinfect environmental surfaces.
- Practice medication injection safety.
- Use PPE (gloves, masks, eye protection, gowns).

