

GERMS CAN LIVE IN BLOOD.

WHERE IS THE RISK?

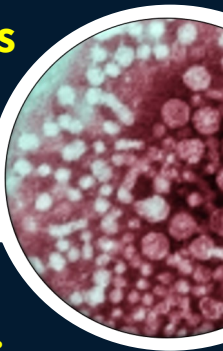
Know where germs live to stop spread and protect patients



- Emergency Medical Service (EMS) providers can come into contact with bloodborne pathogens like HIV and hepatitis B from contaminated blood.
- Items that cause a cut or break in someone else's skin, like an IV catheter, can spread viruses in blood and cause new infections.
- Viruses in blood can live on surfaces and spread even when blood is not visible.

Germs That EMS Providers Can Face from Blood

- HIV
- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis C



Healthcare Tasks Involving Exposure to Blood

- Inserting an IV
- Collecting blood specimens
- Wound packing & controlling bleeding

Infection Control Actions to Reduce Risk

- Hand hygiene
- Use personal protective equipment (gloves, gowns, eye protection)
- Safe injection practices
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and equipment