

*Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)-*

The end stage of HIV disease, an illness of the immune system which reduces the body's ability to fight infections and certain cancers. In order to be classified as "AIDS", a patient must meet the current list of diagnostic criteria from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Published in April 1993 MMWR).

*Antibody-*

A protein made by the body in response to a foreign agent introduced into the body. The antibody attacks the foreign agent in an attempt to destroy it.

*Asymptomatic Bloodborne-*

An infection for which evidence of the causative agent can be founded in the blood but the person infected does not display any other diagnostic evidence of infection.

*Authorized Decision Maker-*

Refers to a Legal Guardian, Medical Guardian, Surrogate Decision Maker as appropriate to the situation. This person does not negate the Minor's right to consent to Treatment or Advise according to H-G Article, §20-102, Annotated Code of Maryland

*Barrier Precautions-*

Items used to protect an individual from exposure/contact with blood or body fluids.

*Blood-*

Human blood, blood components, and products made from Human blood.

*Bloodborne Pathogen-*

Organisms (bacteria, viruses, fungi, parasites) which can cause diseases and can be transmitted to other persons through contact with the blood or body fluids of an infected person.

*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)-*

An agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Services responsible for monitoring and control of diseases in the United States. The agency sets policy and guidelines necessary to protect the health and welfare of citizens.

*Cerebrospinal-*

Pertaining to the brain and spinal cord.

*COMAR-*

Code of Maryland Regulations. This is the official collection of legally adopted regulations in the State of Maryland.

*Condom, male-*

A device, preferably made of latex, designed to cover the penis during sexual intercourse to prevent the transmission of sexually transmitted diseases or contraception.

*Condom, female-*

Polyurethane device inserted into the vagina designed to cover the vaginal wall and the outer labia to prevent sexually transmitted diseases or contraception.

*Dental Dam-*

A thin piece of latex produced for use in dental procedures; however, when used during oral sex, can act as a barrier between the mouth and other body openings for protection from infection.

*DHMH-*

Maryland State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

*Epidemiologic-*

Pertaining to the study of an epidemic and epidemic diseases.

*Exposure-*

A specific eye, mouth or other mucous membrane, non-intact skin or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious material.

*HIV Antibody-*

An antibody produced by the human body when the infective agent HIV is introduced into the human body.

*HIV Antibody Test-*

A laboratory test for the HIV antibody. Except in the case newborn infant which may be carrying maternal HIV antibody, a confirmed positive HIV antibody test means that the individual has HIV infection.

*HIV Status-*

Whether a person is or is not infected with HIV.

*Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)-*

The virus which causes AIDS: commonly referred to as HIV.

*Immune System-*

A complex network of human organs and cells that allows the body to defend itself against infections and substances which are foreign to the body.

*Indeterminate Test Result-*

HIV test result which cannot be classified as either negative or positive.

*Maryland Occupational Safety and Health (MOSH)*

An agency within the State Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation which is responsible for enforcement of workplace health and safety laws and regulations; commonly referred to as MOSH.

*Mucous membrane-*

A membrane lining body cavities and canals that secretes a sticky substance known as mucous which moistens and protects the membrane.

*Negative Test Result*

Two ELISA's (standard screening tests) are performed on the same sample. If both are non-reactive the test is interpreted as negative. If one of the ELISAs is reactive, then a Western Blot is performed for confirmation. If the Western Blot is non-restrictive, the test is interpreted as negative.

*Non-compliant-*

Not following directions, guidelines, advice, protocols, etc.

*Percutaneous-*

Passing through the skin (e.g., a needle stick).

*Peritoneal-*

Pertaining to the peritoneum, a membrane lining the walls of the abdominal cavity and internal organs.

*Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)-*

The equipment and/or supplies used to protect a person from coming in contact with blood or body fluids of another persons; may include gloves, goggles, mask and gowns.

*Pleural-*

Pertaining to the pleura, the two membranous sacs which line either side of the chest cavity and enclose the adjacent lung.

*Positive Test Result-*

A confirmed HIV test result (generally, by performing both an ELISA screening test and a Western Blot confirmatory test) which is positive, indicating the presence of HIV antibody.

*Potentially Infectious Material-*

Includes the following human body fluids; semen, vaginal secretions, pericardial fluid, peritoneal fluid, amniotic fluid, saliva in dental procedures, any body fluid that is visibly contaminated with blood, and all body fluids found in situations where it is difficult or impossible to distinguish or differentiate between body fluids, any unfixed tissue or organ (other than intact skin) from a human (living or dead). It also includes HIV containing cell or tissue cultures, organ cultures, and HIV or HBV containing culture medium or solutions; and blood, organs, other tissues from experimental animals infected with HIV or HBV.

*Regulated Waste-*

Waste as defined in Maryland Regulation that contains anatomical material, blood in liquid form, blood-soiled articles, contaminated materials, microbiological waste, needles, or other sharps.

*Seroconvert-*

Change from negative HIV status to positive HIV status.

*Seronegative-*

The status of a person's blood when tested by ELISA and/or Western Blot (the standard serological screening tests) and there are no antibodies to HIV detected at the time the test was done. This term is also used informally to indicate that an individual is not HIV infected.

*Seropositive-*

The status of a person's blood when it is tested and the results of both the screening test (ELISA) and the confirmatory test (Western Blot) indicate that HIV antibodies are present.

*Sharps-*

Needles or other sharp instruments used in the health care setting that could penetrate the skin.

*Standard Precautions-*

*Standard precautions* combine the major features of *Universal (Blood and Body Fluid) Precautions* (designed to reduce the risk of transmission of blood-borne pathogens) and *Body Substance Isolation* (designed to reduce the risk of transmission of pathogens from moist body substances). *Standard precautions* apply to (1) blood, (2) all body fluids, secretions, and excretions except sweat regardless of whether they contain visible blood, (3) non-intact skin, and (4) mucous membranes. *Standard Precautions* are designed to reduce the risk of transmission of microorganisms from both recognized and unrecognized sources of infection in hospitals.

*Synovial-*

Pertaining to the clear fluid secreted by membranes in joint Cavities and tendon sheaths.

*Universal Precautions*

Infection control activities (e.g. use of latex gloves) that are intended for use in all situations where blood or body fluids are present, and that are designed to protect the user from bloodborne infections, especially HIV and Hepatitis B (HBV).