

**Agent Summary (CDC [BMBM5](#)) – Hepatitis B Viruses (HBV)**

1. Precaution

Hepatitis B viruses are naturally acquired from a carrier during blood transfusion, vaccination, tattooing, or body piercing with inadequately sterilized instruments. Non-parenteral routes, such as domestic contact and unprotected (heterosexual and homosexual) intercourse, are also major modes of transmission.

Individuals who are infected with the HBV are at risk of infection with Hepatitis D virus (HDV), a defective RNA virus that requires the presence of HBV virus for replication. Infection with HDV usually exacerbates the symptoms caused by HBV infection.

HBV may be present in blood and blood products of human origin, in urine, semen, CSF and saliva. Parenteral inoculation, droplet exposure of mucous membranes, and contact exposure of broken skin are the primary laboratory hazards. The virus may be stable in dried blood or blood components for several days. Attenuated or virulent strains have not been identified.

Hepatitis B has been one of the most frequently occurring laboratory-associated infections, and laboratory workers are recognized as a high-risk group for acquiring such infections.

2. PPE: follow SOP #3.0 donning and doffing procedure
3. Lab area : \_\_\_\_\_
4. Animal holding area : \_\_\_\_\_
5. Animal procedure area: \_\_\_\_\_