

TEST ANSWERS: BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

The *BSO Plus Safety Topic* is a review designed from the BSO Plus agenda. This safety topic is your way to stay current on the safety information over the 3 years between BSO Plus and BSR.

1. An example of indirect contact of a biological agent would be: (Circle all that apply).

- a. Contact with contaminated objects and surfaces
- b. Contact with the spray of droplets from coughing
- c. Animal-to-person contact
- d. Contaminated food and drinking water

RATIONALE: Direct contact occurs when infected blood or body fluid from one person enters another person's body at an entry site, such as infected blood splashing in the eye. Indirect contact occurs when a person's skin touches an object that contains the blood or body fluid of an infected person, such as picking up soiled dressings contaminated with an infected person's blood or body fluid and enters either through broken skin or is transferred to a mucous membrane, such as the eye.

2. Identify the possible sources of biological hazards.

- a. Blood and body fluids
- b. Insects, animal & bird droppings
- c. Moulds & Fungi
- d. All of the above

RATIONALE: Sources of biological hazards may include bacteria, viruses, insects, plants, birds, animals, and other humans.

3. Biological hazards do not lead to severe health effects such as chronic disease or death.

- a. True
- b. False

RATIONALE: Biological hazards can cause a variety of health effects ranging from skin irritation and allergies to infections, chronic diseases, and even death.

4. Workers exposed to blood and bodily fluids may suffer from which potential health effect(s)? (Circle all that apply)

- a. Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)
- b. Hepatitis A
- c. Hepatitis B
- d. Hepatitis C

RATIONALE: Biological hazards can be found in the workplace in several different areas. Exposure to bloodborne diseases can occur anywhere on the jobsite from an office to out in the field, and your risk increases if blood and bodily fluids are present on hard or soft surfaces. Biological hazards that come from plants, insects, birds or bacteria can be found in the workplace in standing or contaminated water, through ventilation systems, or when people work outdoors.

5. Identify the appropriate control measures for protecting workers from biological hazards.
(Circle all that apply)

a. Handwashing
b. Worker training and immunization programs
c. Proper equipment cleaning
d. Spill cleanup procedures

RATIONALE: Standard precautions include maintaining personal hygiene, such as handwashing, using PPE, engineering controls, work practice controls, worker training, and proper equipment cleaning and spill cleanup procedures.