

PREVENTION OF TRANSMISSION OF HIV OR HBV TO PATIENTS

IOWA CODE 139A.22

1. A hospital shall adopt procedures requiring the establishment of protocols applicable on a case-by-case basis to a health care provider determined to be infected with HIV or HBV who ordinarily performs exposure-prone procedures as determined by an expert review panel, within the hospital setting. The protocols established shall be in accordance with the recommendations issued by the centers for disease control and prevention of the United States department of health and human services. The expert review panel may be an established committee of the hospital. The procedures may provide for referral of the health care provider to the expert review panel established by the department pursuant to subsection 3 for establishment of the protocols. The procedures shall require reporting noncompliance with the protocols by a health care provider to the licensing board with jurisdiction over the relevant health care providers.

2. A health care facility shall adopt procedures in accordance with recommendations issued by the centers for disease control and prevention of the United States department of health and human services, applicable to a health care provider determined to be infected with HIV or HBV who ordinarily performs or assists with exposure-prone procedures within the health care facility. The procedures shall require referral of the health care provider to the expert review panel established by the department pursuant to subsection 3.

3. The department shall establish an expert review panel to determine on a case-by-case basis under what circumstances, if any, a health care provider determined to be infected with HIV or HBV practicing outside the hospital setting or referred to the panel by a hospital or health care facility may perform exposure-prone procedures. If a health care provider determined to be infected with HIV or HBV does not comply with the determination of the expert review panel, the panel shall report the noncompliance to the licensing board with jurisdiction over the health care provider. A determination of an expert review panel pursuant to this section is a final agency action appealable pursuant to section 17A.19.

4. The health care provider determined to be infected with HIV or HBV, who works in a hospital setting, may elect either the expert review panel established by the hospital or the expert review panel established by the department for the purpose of making a determination of the circumstances under which the health care provider may perform exposure-prone procedures.

5. A health care provider determined to be infected with HIV or HBV shall not perform an exposure-prone procedure except as approved by the expert review panel established by the department pursuant to subsection 3, or in compliance with the protocol established by the

hospital pursuant to subsection 1 or the procedures established by the health care facility pursuant to subsection 2.

6. The board of medicine, the board of physician assistants, the board of podiatry, the board of nursing, the dental board, and the board of optometry shall require that licensees comply with the recommendations issued by the centers for disease control and prevention of the United States department of health and human services for preventing transmission of human immunodeficiency virus and hepatitis B virus to patients during exposure-prone invasive procedures, with the recommendations of the expert review panel established pursuant to subsection 3, with hospital protocols established pursuant to subsection 1, and with health care facility procedures established pursuant to subsection 2, as applicable.

7. Information relating to the HIV status of a health care provider is confidential and subject to the provisions of section 141A.9. A person who intentionally or recklessly makes an unauthorized disclosure of such information is subject to a civil penalty of one thousand dollars. The attorney general or the attorney general's designee may maintain a civil action to enforce this section. Proceedings maintained under this section shall provide for the anonymity of the health care provider and all documentation shall be maintained in a confidential manner. Information relating to the HBV status of a health care provider is confidential and shall not be accessible to the public. Information regulated by this section, however, may be disclosed to members of the expert review panel established by the department or a panel established by hospital protocol under this section. The information may also be disclosed to the appropriate licensing board by filing a report as required by this section. The licensing board shall consider the report a complaint subject to the confidentiality provisions of section 272C.6. A licensee, upon the filing of a formal charge or notice of hearing by the licensing board based on such a complaint, may seek a protective order from the board.

8. The expert review panel established by the department and individual members of the panel shall be immune from any liability, civil or criminal, for reasonable actions taken in the good faith performance of functions authorized or required by this section. A hospital, an expert review panel established by the hospital, and individual members of the panel shall be immune from any liability, civil or criminal, for reasonable actions taken in the good faith performance of functions authorized or required by this section. Complaints, investigations, reports, deliberations, and findings of the hospital and its panel with respect to a named health care provider suspected, alleged, or found to be in violation of the protocol required by this section constitute peer review records under section 147.135, and are subject to the specific confidentiality requirements and limitations of that section.