**Suggested Answers to Discussion Topics, Chapter 11, Common Communicable Diseases and Transmission in the Health Care Setting**

| Suggested Answers for Topics for Discussion | Learning Objective(s) |
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| 1a. Students’ responses should include the following:   * The most common bloodborne diseases are hepatitis B and C, and HIV, which can result in AIDS. * Her risk for getting hepatitis B would be absent if Louise had received the vaccine offered at her workplace.   1b. Students’ responses should include the following:   * She should put on a pair of gloves and immediately dispose of the contaminated hypodermic needle properly in a labeled OSHA-approved container to prevent further exposure to herself or others. * Louise should then wash her hands thoroughly and immediately to remove as much contaminated substance as possible. * Finally, Louise must report the incident according to agency policy. The facility’s exposure control plan will then go into effect, and she will receive appropriate medical tests and treatment if necessary. | 4, 5, 8, 9 |
| 2a. Students’ responses should include the following:   * Risk factors this patient has for contracting tuberculosis include poverty. * He is homeless. * He is living with others like himself in a crowded, unsanitary urban setting.   2b. Students’ responses should include the following:   * George should put on a mask specially fitted for him to use if working with a patient with suspected or known tuberculosis. * He should then place a mask on the patient and move him to a private room. * George should notify the nurse immediately that he has taken precautions because of the physician’s diagnosis of probable tuberculosis. | 10 |