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

| Topics for Discussion | Learning Objective(s) |
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| 1. Louise, a nursing assistant, is changing the bed linens for a patient who has gone to surgery. As she removes the sheets, she is stuck in the hand by a hypodermic needle that was accidentally left on the bed by the nurse who gave the patient an injection prior to going to surgery.   1. Louise may have been exposed to bloodborne diseases. Which common diseases is Louise now at risk for developing and could any of them be prevented? 2. What should Louise do in response to this accident? | 4, 5, 8, 9 |
| 2. George, a nursing assistant working in an inner city emergency room, is assigned to assist in preparing a patient for examination. The man was brought in by the police who found him lying on the sidewalk looking very ill. He is dirty and dressed in shabby, filthy clothes. The man is pale, very thin, and is coughing harshly. He tells George he wants something to stop his chronic coughing because he can’t get any rest. He also tells George he lives with a group of men like himself in a small room they found in the back of an abandoned storefront, with no heat or water. As George takes his blood pressure, the man coughs repeatedly. The ER physician tells George this man may have tuberculosis.   1. What risk factors does this man have for contracting tuberculosis? 2. What precautions should George consider implementing immediately? | 10 |