**Guided Lecture Notes, Chapter 11, Common Communicable Diseases and Transmission in the Health Care Setting**

Learning Objective 1. List reasons why communicable diseases may be more easily transmitted in a health care setting.

Learning Objective 2. Discuss how pathogens are transmitted by contact methods.

Learning Objective 3. Identify infectious diseases that are commonly. transmitted by contact in the health care setting.

Learning Objective 4. Explain how bloodborne pathogens are transmitted. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 2 and 3.)

* Discuss how bloodborne pathogens are transmitted, both in a health care setting and in a person’s personal habits.
* Have learners refer to learning activities located at the end of the chapter.

Learning Objective 5. Describe two major bloodborne diseases that pose a threat to the health care worker. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 6 to 21.)

* Explain the term “bloodborne pathogens.”
* Explain how bloodborne pathogens are transmitted from one person to another, through blood or body fluids. Blood or body fluids from an infected person must enter the bloodstream of a person who is not infected. Draw up 1 mL of red-colored fluid in a few syringes. Show students what 1 mL of blood would look like on a piece of gauze or spilled on the floor, a table top, or a piece of clothing.
* List the diseases caused by bloodborne pathogens. Mention that hepatitis B and C and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) pose the greatest risk to health care workers.
* Compare hepatitis B virus (HBV) with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). State the similarities in the mode of transmission of the two diseases. You can refer to the table of comparisons provided in the chapter.
* Explain that HIV is the virus that causes AIDS. HIV is a bloodborne pathogen and is transmitted in the same way as HBV. Its effect on the body, however, is very different.
* Have learners refer to learning activities located at the end of the chapter.

Learning Objective 6. Describe how HIV/AIDS affects a person physically. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 3 to 10.)

* Explain that death occurs because the body can no longer fight off infections and malignancies.
* Discuss current methods of treatment for HIV infection. Stress that although medications may delay the onset of AIDS, there is still no cure for this disease.
* Discuss the various signs and symptoms which should be reported to the nurse immediately if observed in a patient or resident with HIV/AIDS.
* Have learners refer to learning activities located at the end of the chapter.

Learning Objective 7. Discuss the risks of infection for HIV and AIDS. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 11 to 17.)

* Explain who is at a risk for acquiring HIV infection and AIDS. Stress that HIV infection does not discriminate according to race, sexual orientation, gender, or age.
* Review the common modes of acquiring HIV.
* Discuss why AIDS is considered a global health crisis, and what this means.
* Discuss how developing nations are being hit the hardest by HIV infection and AIDS. Explain the reasons for this.
* Discuss the concerns for long-term care among the elderly.
* Discuss why the older adults are at a greater risk and have higher incidence of HIV/AIDS among the 50-year and older population.
* Discuss the need for more education among this population.
* Have learners refer to learning activities at the end of the chapter.

Learning Objective 8.Describe measures health care workers and employers take to protect against exposure to bloodborne pathogens. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 23 to 24.)

* Discuss how personal protection equipment (PPE) is used and in what instances it should be worn.
* Explain environmental control factors, such as how to handle and dispose of contaminated sharps, trash, and linen.
* Have learners refer to learning activities located at the end of the chapter.

Learning Objective 9.Describe how airborne pathogens are transmitted. (Refer to PowerPoint slide 25.)

* Explain how airborne pathogens leave an infected person’s body when they cough, sneeze, sing, or talk, and how these infected particles can dry out and be carried along through air currents.
* Have learners refer to learning activities located at the end of the chapter.

Learning Objective 10. Describe major airborne diseases that pose a threat to the health care worker. (Refer to PowerPoint slide 26.)

* Define the term airborne pathogens. Explain how these pathogens are transmitted and the diseases caused by them.
* Explain that tuberculosis (TB) is an infection caused by a bacterium that usually infects the lungs but may also infect the kidneys or bones. Explain how the bacterium that causes TB is transmitted.
* Have learners refer to learning activities located at the end of the chapter.