



INFECTIOUS DISEASE TERMINOLOGY



Escambia County, Florida - ALS/BLS Medical Protocol


Aerosolized:	In the form of ultramicroscopic solid or liquid particles dispersed or suspended in air or gas.
Amniotic Fluid:	The serous liquid in which the embryo is suspended in the Uterus.
Antibody:	A protein substance produced in the blood or tissues in response to a specific antigen, such as a virus. Antibodies destroy or weaken bacteria and neutralize organic poisons, thus forming the basis of immunity.
Blood:	Human blood, human blood components, and products made from human blood.
Bloodborne Pathogens:	Pathogenic microorganisms that are present in human blood and can cause disease in humans. These pathogens include, but are not limited to, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and syphilis.
Cerebrospinal Fluid:	The serum like liquid that circulates through the ventricles of the brain and the cavity of the spinal cord.
Contraindication:	A factor that renders the administration of a drug or the carrying out of a medical procedure inadvisable.
HEPA Masks:	HEPA is the acronym for "high efficiency particulate air" filters which are used for a personal protective device worn over the nose and mouth to filter/remove bacteria, spores



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Page 1 of 4

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and viruses equal to and greater than 0.3 microns. OSHA's standard for respiratory protection requires that employees be trained in the use of respirators and that they be fit tested.

Influenza: An acute contagious viral infection characterized by inflammation of the respiratory tract and by fever, chills and muscular pain.

Intubation: To insert a tube into a hollow organ or body passage.

Mantoux Test (PPD): A method of assessing whether someone has become infected with M. tuberculosis complex. The test involves measurement of a subject's immune response to an injection of tuberculin purified protein derivative (PPD) manufactured from killed Mycobacterium tuberculosis bacilli. Also referred to as tuberculin skin tests or PPD tests.

Nasopharyngeal Airway: The part of the pharynx above the soft palate that is continuous with the nasal passages.

Percutaneous: Passed, done, or effected through the skin.

Pericardial Fluid: The liquid suspended in the sac surrounding the heart.

Peritoneal Fluid: The liquid suspended in the body cavity that contains most of the abdominal and pelvic organs.


Plasma: The clear yellowish fluid portion of blood, lymph, or intramuscular fluid in which cells are suspended.



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Page 2 of 4

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Pleural Fluid:	The liquid matter contained in and around the body cavity that contains the lungs.
Post-exposure Prophylaxis (PEP, chemo-prophylaxis):	Prophylaxis means disease prevention. Post-exposure prophylaxis (or PEP) means taking antiviral medications as soon as possible after exposure to a pathogen so that the exposure will not result in an infection.
Rapid HIV Testing:	A laboratory method called "Single Use Diagnostic System [SUDS® HIV-1 Test]" that detects and reports HIV antibody test results in the same day.
Seroconversion:	Development of antibodies in blood serum as a result of infection or immunization.
Serum:	The clear yellowish fluid obtained upon separating whole blood into its solid and liquid components.
Sputum:	Matter that is coughed up and usually ejected from the mouth, including saliva, foreign material, and substances such as mucus or phlegm, from the respiratory tract.
Synovial Fluid:	The liquid that lubricates joints and nourishes cartilage.
Titer:	A level of concentration of antibodies in a blood sample that shows whether exposure and subsequent immunity to an infectious disease is present.



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Page 3 of 4

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Triage:


The process for sorting and prioritizing injured people into groups based on their need for or likely benefit from immediate medical treatment in a medical setting.



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Page 4 of 4

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