INTRODUCTION

In 1992 the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) promulgated a new occupational health standard intended to eliminate or reduce the health risks associated with exposure to the Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), and other blood-borne pathogens that can be transmitted through exposure to blood and other potentially infectious materials. The federal rule was adopted verbatim by the North Carolina Commissioner of Labor.

Outpatient and inpatient health care facilities provide a unique setting that is conducive to the transmission of infectious agents. The ASU Communication Disorders Clinic is committed to the delivery of quality healthcare to all clients. Furthermore, the Clinic is committed to minimizing the risk of exposure to any infectious disease.

Infection control is an organized effort to manage the environment to reduce or minimize the potential for cross-contamination.

The information presented below as well as the information presented in the Infection Control training required of all students and the information present in section 3 of this manual should give all students a strong basis in Infection Control for most facilities.