



Guidelines for Handling Blood or Body Fluids

Treat All Blood/Body Fluids as Potentially Hazardous

- ◆ Cover any open sores with waterproof dressings.
- ◆ Wear disposable gloves when handling blood/body fluids.
- ◆ Avoid contact with your skin when removing soiled gloves.
- ◆ Wash hands with soap and water immediately after removing gloves.
- ◆ Wear structural gloves when cleaning up broken glass.
- ◆ Use any available material to make a barrier between your skin and the fluid if gloves are not available.
- ◆ Take precautions to prevent needlestick injuries.
- ◆ Include disposable airway equipment and resuscitation bags as part of all first aid supplies.
- ◆ Use disposable towels and napkins. Line all waste receptacles with plastic bags.
- ◆ To clean blood/body fluid spills:
 - Wear gloves during the cleaning and disinfecting procedures. If the possibility of splashing exists, the worker should wear a face shield and gown. For large blood spills, overalls, gowns or aprons, as well as, boots or protective shoe covers should be worn. Personal protective equipment should be changed if torn or soiled and always removed before leaving the location of the spill and then hands washed.
 - Wipe up visible material with disposable toweling and dispose in lined garbage containers and clean the spill area.
 - Disinfect the surface with an approved disinfectant following the manufacturer's directions for procedure and length of time to leave on surface.
 - Rinse mop after use then disinfect with approved disinfectant.
 - The treated area should be wiped with paper towels soaked in tap water. Allow the area to dry.
 - Discard towels in a plastic lined waste receptacle.
 - Care must be taken to avoid splashing or generating aerosols during the clean up.
 - Wash hands thoroughly after gloves are removed.

**For Further Information Contact the Infectious Disease Program at 625-8318
or toll free 1-888-294-6630, ext. 8318.**

