

## PREVENTION OF DISEASE/INFECTION TRANSMISSION CAUSED BY CONTACT WITH BODILY FLUIDS

FILE: EBBA-R1

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The body fluids and substances of all persons should be considered to contain potentially infectious agents. Body fluids and substances include blood, semen, drainage from scrapes and cuts, feces, urine, vomitus, respiratory secretions (e.g., nasal discharge) and saliva.

The following infection control practices should be followed in all situations involving potential contact with any body fluids and substances:

1. Gloves should be kept in emergency response kits and be readily accessible at sites where students seek assistance for bloody noses or injuries. Gloves should be worn while holding bloody noses and dealing with cuts that are bleeding heavily or when it is likely that hands will be in contact with body fluids or substances.
  - a. If gloves are not available, the use of towels or some other clean material as a barrier may provide some protection.
  - b. Cuts and sores on your skin should be routinely covered to avoid infection.
  - c. When possible, students should wash off their own cuts and abrasions. After cuts are washed with soap and water, they should be covered with Band-Aids or bandages of the appropriate size. Where possible, students should be taught to hold their own bloody noses.
2. When possible, pocket face masks should be used for mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.
3. Hands need to be washed rigorously and thoroughly for a duration of several minutes with soap, paying particular attention to areas around and under the fingernails and between fingers.
4. Clean up should occur as soon as possible after any skin contact with any body fluid or substance.
  - a. Wash skin with soap and water.
  - b. Wash contaminated surfaces and non-disposable items with standard disinfectant. Use aerosol germicide cleaner.
  - c. Remove contaminated clothing immediately and wash ~~linen~~ in detergent with hot water. If unable to wash immediately, place contaminated clothing in secure plastic container or bag.
  - d. Contaminated tissues, paper towels and other disposable items shall be placed in double plastic bags before being discarded.
5. If contact with bodily fluids does occur the exposed person should abide by the following protocol:
  - a. Immediate initial testing of the exposed person must be by qualified medical personnel. The Allegany County Health Department has suggested that such initial testing be done by Western Maryland Regional Medical Center in order to assure treatment by the Hepatitis B Immune Globulin. If the person requires this prophylaxis, the hospital is the only place that routinely carries the vaccine.
  - b. Follow up testing in accordance with the Center for Disease Control guidelines should be conducted. The person who is the source of the bodily fluid should be asked to get tested through their physician (or LHD if uninsured) for pathogens borne by bodily fluids.
6. Upon any occurrence of an event of contact with bodily fluids. The supervisor(s) of any exposed individuals must be immediately notified.
7. Within a short period of time after the exposure, the supervisor shall have the responsibility of completing an incident report to contain the following: (a) date, time and location, (b) persons exposed, (c) persons who caused the exposure, (d) nature and circumstances of exposure, (e) actions taken, (f) notice of all exposed persons of the need to be tested as soon as possible, and (g) any other information deemed by the supervisor to be potentially useful.

Use individual judgment in determining when barriers are needed for unpredictable situations. Personal protective equipment should be utilized for all contact with blood and body fluids. It is strongly recommended that barriers be used when contact with body fluids or substances is anticipated.

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