

SPILLAGE OF BODILY FLUIDS POLICY

Aims

The purpose of this policy is to direct staff on the appropriate management of blood and body fluid spillages to reduce the risk of cross infection.

Hazards

Body fluids are a source of infectious micro-organisms

The main risk is infection following hand to mouth /nose/eye contact or via broken skin (cuts or scratches)

Adverse health effects from cleaning products include irritation, dermatitis and breathing problems

Access

Erect barriers and notices

Infection control procedures

The following precautions will provide protection against blood borne viruses and other infections, which may be transmitted via blood or bodily fluids:

- always keep cuts or broken skin covered with a waterproof dressing
- avoid direct contact with blood or bodily fluids
- if blood is splashed on the skin, it should be washed off immediately with soap and water
Splashes of blood into the eyes or mouth should be washed immediately with plenty of water
- wear disposable gloves when contact with blood or bodily fluid is likely
- always wash hands after removing gloves
- always wash hands before and after giving first aid
- avoid exposure to needles and take particular care if disposing of them

Last Reviewed: September 2022

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Provide dedicated cleaning equipment and materials that are stored in a designated area

Ensure a good standard of general ventilation

Collect as much residue as possible and place in a container with a lid for safe disposal

Bag up any contaminated material that needs laundry or disposal eg clothing

Wash surfaces clean with detergent before disinfecting

Report the spillage in the Accident Book

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