



INFECTION CONTROL MANUAL

Subject	Clean up of Blood/Body Fluid Spills
Policy NO:	IC303
Department:	Infection Control
Effective Date	1/99
Reviewed/Revised	7/99, 4/03, 10/04, 11/05, 8/06, 8/07, 5/08, 1/09, 2/10, 1/11, 1/12, 1/13, 1/14, 1/17, 1/18, 1/19, 2/21, 1/24
Regulatory	TJC: IC.02.01.01

PURPOSE:

To prevent or minimize the risk of transmission of blood/body fluid exposure.

POLICY:

Weisman Children's will utilize this policy to prevent or minimize an employees exposure to blood/body fluids in the course of cleaning up a blood/body fluid spill.

SCOPE AND RESPONSIBILITY:

It is the responsibility of the Environmental Services Department to clean up blood/body fluid spills. In the absence of environmental services, it is the responsibility of the employee, who discovers the spill, to notify the supervisor so that he/she can implement the cleaning procedure. All spills should be taken care of immediately.

Definition of Bio-Medical/Bio-Hazard Waste:

Any item that is saturated and/or dripping with blood and/or body fluids is considered to be bio-medical/bio-hazard waste if it has the potential to splash, spray, and drip or is caked on and can flake off.

Body fluids are those fluids that come from sterile cavities such as: cerebral spinal fluid, synovial fluid, amniotic fluid, pericardial, pleural, and peritoneal fluids.

Bio-Medical/Bio-Hazard Waste needs to be disposed of in a red bag.

Spills of blood/body fluids are managed as follows according to OSHA standards and guidelines 1910.1030:

1. Any employee finding a spill of blood/body fluids or other potentially infectious materials must notify Environmental Services immediately. In the event that an employee from Environmental Services is unavailable, follow procedure as outlined below.
2. Upon notification, a housekeeper trained in blood spill clean up will be sent to the area.
3. The housekeeper will wear gloves, a gown/ eye protection, and in the case of a larger spill, protective shoe coverings.
4. Any glass or sharp object will be picked up by using dust pans or other mechanical means. The sharps will be discarded in a sharps container. Dust pans or other reusable items used for clean up should be disinfected with facility-grade disinfectant..
5. The blood/body fluid spill and surrounding area should be cleaned using a phenolic

disinfectant solution.

6. The soiled mop head should be placed in a plastic bag and sent to be laundered according to standard environmental services procedure. Mop handles and buckets should be cleaned using Lysol phenolic disinfectant solution.
7. A carpet with a blood spill should be cleaned by extraction of the spill area. The waste solution will be carefully poured into a drain. The extraction equipment will be cleaned with phenolic disinfectant solution.
8. The housekeeper will remove and discard protective shoe coverings in red bag trash bag. Disposable gloves/gowns will be discarded in red trash bag, reusable (utility) gloves may be washed, checked for integrity, and kept for reuse. Hands must be washed upon removal of gloves.
9. A spill kit is also available for clean up. The supervisor will obtain the spill kit from the environmental services office. The spill kit contains all the necessary equipment that is needed to clean up a blood/body fluid spill. The step by step directions are enclosed in the kit.

Universal precautions shall be observed to prevent contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials. According to the concept of Universal Precautions, all human blood and certain human body fluids are treated as if known to be infectious for HIV, HBV, and other bloodborne pathogens. Under circumstances in which differentiation between body fluid types is difficult or impossible, all body fluids shall be considered potentially infectious materials.

REFERENCES:

Occupational Safety & Health Administration. (n.d.). *Bloodborne Pathogens*.
<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.1030>

New Jersey Administrative Code. § 7:26-3A.6