

## **Infection and Disease Control Procedures**

Procedures for Infection and Disease Control Recommendations have been made by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) for the prevention of transmission of blood borne pathogens (micro-organisms that can cause disease in humans) such as Hepatitis B, C, D and Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus (HIV). These recommendations recognize the strict adherence to universal precautions and require that the body fluids and substances of all persons must be considered potentially infectious for various diseases.

Body fluids and other potentially infectious material include blood, semen and vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluid (fluid surrounding the brain and spinal cord), synovial fluid (secreted from joints), pleural fluid (fluid surrounding the lungs), pericardial fluid (fluid surrounding the heart), peritoneal fluid (fluid secreted from the inner abdomen), saliva, any fluid contaminated by blood, and all body fluids where it is difficult or impossible to differentiate between body fluid.

While the contact with the body fluids of another person always represents some risk, the level of risk in a school setting is generally fairly low for persons not assigned to certain tasks which put them at risk. The risk is increased if the blood or other potentially infectious material come in contact with non-intact skin, or splash to the mouth, eye, or other mucous membranes, or in contact under the skin.

Health professionals at all levels recommend strict adherence to the Centers for Disease Control universal precautions which require that the body fluids and substances of all persons must be considered potentially infectious for various diseases.

The following procedures are precautionary measures against the transmission of various bloodborne diseases. Prudent actions, to be employed by all staff and students, should focus primarily on steps that staff members can take to help insure their own well-being and that of their students.

Those who administer first aid, provide physical care or, as determined by the district, may otherwise incur occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials will be specifically protected under the district's health insurance policy, and through annual training as required by Oregon OSHA.

These procedures, however, are a review for all staff and students of appropriate hygienic, sanitation, and disease prevention practices:

1. Universally recognized precautions are to be observed at all times. Universal precautions require that staff and students approach infection and disease control by treating all body fluids as though they are infectious and can transmit such bloodborne diseases as HIV, Hepatitis B, C, or D virus, and/or other bloodborne pathogens.

2. Whenever possible, students should be directed to care for their own bleeding injury. This includes encouraging students to apply their own Band-Aids. If a student requires assistance, the student should be directed to, or a call placed for the designated first aid provider in that school setting.
3. Appropriate personal protective equipment, as defined by Oregon OSHA, is required for all tasks in which an individual may come in contact with blood or other potentially infectious material. Such tasks include, but are not limited to cleaning body fluid spills, emptying trash cans, handling sharp containers, handling contaminated broken glass, cleaning contaminated equipment, and handling contaminated laundry and clothing.

Additional tasks may include assisting with any first aid care involving blood or other potentially infectious material, handling clothes soiled by incontinence, diaper change or cleaning up body fluid spills. Persons providing delegated nursing tasks which require potential exposure to body fluids are also required to use appropriate personal protective equipment.

4. Complete and effective handwashing of at least 30 seconds duration should follow any administration of first aid, health care administered to a student, or unanticipated contact with potentially infectious materials, and always after the removal of vinyl/latex gloves used in these tasks.
5. If exposure to blood or other potentially infectious material occurs in the performance of an employee's duty, e.g., a specific exposure to mouth, eye, other mucous membrane, or non-intact skin, then immediate and thorough washing/rinsing of the exposed area should occur. Skin should be cleansed thoroughly, preferably with a liquid germicidal soap.
6. In the event a hand-washing facility is not readily available, thorough cleaning using an antiseptic cleanser and clean cloth or paper towels or antiseptic towelette provided by the district as an alternative is necessary. In the event alternatives are used, employees must wash hands thoroughly with soap and running water as soon as feasible.
7. Any exposure to blood or other potentially infectious material should be reported to a supervisor and/or nurse consultant immediately.
8. Any surface contaminated with blood or other potentially infectious material must be rinsed after each use and at the end of the day with soap and water and then rinsed with an EPA-approved disinfectant. These surfaces include equipment, counters, mats (including those used in athletic events) or changing tables. EPA- approved disinfectants include Lysol, Purex, Clorox, Tough Act bathroom cleaner, Dow bathroom cleaner, Real Pine liquid cleaner, Pine Sol, Spic and Span, Tackle liquid, Comet, or other cleaning products with EPA numbers.
9. An EPA-approved disinfectant must be used when cleaning up fluids such as blood, vomit, feces, or urine from the floor or other contaminated surfaces.
10. Contaminated laundry such as clothing, sheets, and towels must be placed and transported in appropriate bags or containers that prevent direct contact, and laundered in a manner that disinfects all contaminated laundry.

11. Needles, syringes, broken glassware, and other sharp objects found on district property must not be picked up by students at any time, nor by staff without appropriate puncture-proof gloves or mechanical device such as broom, shovel, or brush and dust pan. Any such items found must be disposed of in a closable, puncture resistant, leak-proof container that is appropriately labeled.
12. Gloves and repellent gowns are required for tasks in which exposure to blood or other potentially infectious material can be reasonably anticipated to contaminate street clothing. Type and characteristics of such protective clothing will depend upon the task. Such tasks may include diapering/toileting, assisting with wound care, sorting or bagging contaminated laundry/clothing, and disposing of regulated waste with gross contamination.
13. Maximum protection with gloves, face and/or eye protection and gown are required whenever splashes, spray, spatter, or droplets of blood or other potentially infectious material may be generated and eye, nose or mouth contamination can be reasonably anticipated. Such tasks may include feeding a student who has a history of spitting food or forceful vomiting, or assisting with severe injuries or a wound that is spurting blood.