



Title: **Handling Body Fluids and Substances Procedure**

Code: EBBC R

Section: Section E: Support Services

The body fluids and substances of all persons should be considered to contain potentially infectious agents. No distinction shall be made between body fluids and substances from individuals with a known disease or infection and those from asymptomatic or undiagnosed individuals. 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. Wear vinyl or latex gloves when it is likely that hands will be in contact with body fluids or substances (blood, urine, feces, wound drainage, oral secretions, sputum, vomitus). When possible, wear vinyl or latex gloves while holding bloody noses and dealing with cuts that are bleeding heavily. Gloves should be kept in emergency response kits and be readily accessible in sites where students seek assistance for bloody noses or injuries.
 - a. If vinyl or latex 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, have students 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, a pocket face mask should be used for mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.
3. Wash hands often and well, paying particular attention to areas around and under fingernails and between fingers.
4. Clean up as soon as possible after any skin contact with any body fluid or substance.

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- a. Wash skin with soap and water.
- b. Wash contaminated surfaces and nondisposable items with standard disinfectant. (Use approved district disinfectant)
- c. Disposable towels and supplies should be used. Soiled clothing should be placed in a plastic bag and sent home with the student.
- d. Contaminated tissue, paper towels, and other disposable items should be discarded in a plastic-lined trash container.
- e. Custodial staff should be instructed to remove the plastic liner and discard it into another plastic-lined container creating a double bagged barrier.

Use individual judgment in determining when barriers are needed for unpredictable situations. It is strongly recommended to use barriers when contact with body fluids or substances is anticipated.

Two infectious diseases that receive a great deal of attention are HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis B.

- a. HIV/AIDS virus is fragile and lives a very short time outside the body. This virus is easily destroyed by common disinfectants.
- b. Hepatitis B virus is a hardier virus and is capable of surviving outside the body for a length of time. It is destroyed by approved district disinfectant.
- c. HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis B are transmitted by getting blood, semen, vaginal secretions, or wound secretions into the bloodstream of a noninfected person.
- d. Other body substances (saliva, tears, urine, feces) have extremely small, if any, levels of virus unless blood is present.

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TRANSMISSION CONCERNS-BODY SUBSTANCE SOURCES OF INFECTIOUS AGENTS

Body Substance Source Organism of Concern Transmission

Blood -cuts/abrasions Hepatitis B Virus Bloodstream -nose bleeds HIV/AIDS Virus inoculation -menses Cytomegalovirus through cuts and -contaminated needle abrasions on hands

Direct bloodstream inoculation

*Feces -incontinence Hepatitis A Virus **Oral inoculation Salmonella bacteria from contaminated hands

Shigella bacteria

*Respiratory Secretions Common cold virus **Oral inoculation -saliva Influenza virus from contaminated -nasal discharge ***Epstein-Barr hands virus *Vomitus Gastrointestinal **Oral inoculation viruses (e.g., from contaminated Norwalk virus) hands

*Urine ***Cytomegalovirus Bloodstream -incontinence inoculation through cuts and abrasions on hands

Semen/Vaginal Fluids Hepatitis B Virus Sexual contact HIV/AIDS Virus (intercourse) Gonococcus bacteria

*Possible transmission of AIDS/HIV and Hepatitis B is of little concern from these sources. Wear latex or vinyl gloves when exposed to body secretions, especially blood, urine, feces.

**HAND WASHING IS VERY IMPORTANT!

***These agents cause mononucleosis-like illness.

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