

BODILY FLUIDS

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1. Background

1.1 All body fluids potentially carry transmittable disease, the biggest risk being Hepatitis B, which is difficult to destroy and is carried by up to 20% of the population, Hepatitis C, D and G can also be carried in the blood. HIV can be present in freshly spilt blood, but does not survive outside the body for more than a few seconds.

1.2 Employees are expected to fully comply with the controls set out in this procedure. As it is not possible to identify all circumstances where employees are not at risk from disease associated from body fluids, controls are based on the concept of 'Universal Precautions'.

ALL body fluids should be regarded as potentially infectious.

2. Procedures

2.1 Control of risks (Universal Precautions)

- Wash hands before and after every potential contact and avoid hand to mouth/eye contact
- Wear gloves when contact with blood or body fluids is anticipated
- Protect skin lesions and existing wounds by means of waterproof dressings and/or gloves;
- Avoid use of, or exposure to needles and sharp objects, where unavoidable; take care in their disposal
- Avoid contamination of the person by waterproof or plastic apron
- Control surface contamination by blood and bodily fluids through containment and appropriate decontamination procedures
- Dispose of all contaminated waste and linen safely. Waste must be placed in a biohazard bag and dealt with as clinical waste (so environmental health must collect)
- Use 'Presept' decontamination granules/tablets in line with manufacturer's instructions.

2.2 First Aid

If body fluids come into contact with eyes, mouth, or open wounds, the following precautions should be taken:

- Wash affected part thoroughly
- Encourage wounds to bleed
- Affected persons should go to Accident and Emergency Department at Addenbrookes Hospital AS SOON AS POSSIBLE (within one hour if possible, and CERTAINLY within 24 hours).

2.3 Procedure for the decontamination of surfaces/ equipment.

2.3.1 Spillages of Body Fluids (i.e. blood, urine, vomit) on Hard Floors.

Note: Presept granules if used on carpets will bleach it.

Use of Presept granules:

1. Wearing disposable vinyl gloves and using disposable paper towels, wipe up excess Body Fluids.
2. Using Presept granules, sprinkle over the spilled body fluid, sufficient to solidify and disinfect the spillage. Cover with paper towels and leave for 10 minutes.
3. Then mop up the jellified material and clean the area with soap and hot water.
4. All items used in this process MUST be disposed of in yellow biohazard bags.
5. Environmental Health must collect the biohazard bag for incineration.

2.3.2 Spillages of Body Fluids (i.e. blood, urine, vomit) on carpets

Using Sanitaire Powder:-

1. Wearing disposable vinyl gloves and using disposable paper towels, wipe up excess Body Fluids.
 2. Using Sanitaire granules, sprinkle over the spilled body fluid, sufficient to solidify and disinfect the spillage. Cover with paper towels and leave for 10 minutes.
 3. Then mop up the jellified material and clean the area with soap and hot water.
 4. In the event of experiencing any difficulties in the removal of powder residue (e.g. from Loop Pile Fibre) then apply Enhance Spot Remover to pile to breakdown gel and wipe clean.
- All items used in this process MUST be disposed of in yellow biohazard bags.
Environmental Health must collect the biohazard bag for incineration.

2.3.3 Cleaning of Surfaces

1. Dissolve Presept tablet/s in water (see table 1 Dilution instruction for Presept disinfectant tablets).
2. Wearing disposable vinyl gloves, wipe down contaminated areas with disposable disinfectant saturated cloth soaked in Presept solution.
3. Disposable disinfectant saturated cloth, gloves, etc. MUST be disposed of in a yellow biohazard bag.
4. Biohazard bags MUST be collected by Environmental Health for incineration.