

## Universal Precautions

The following are specific steps that must be taken to protect against contamination from infected blood or body fluids of another person, or from injury by a contaminated sharp object:

- Wash hands frequently to reduce the risk of exposure to blood borne diseases.
- Wear gloves if there is even a possibility you might have contact with another person's body fluids.
- After the removal of gloves or after exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials, wash hands with antibacterial soap.
- Wear gloves once and discard; do not attempt to wash and reuse.
- Clothing or supplies contaminated with body fluids should be placed in doubled plastic bags and tied.
- Used needles or Sharps instruments must be discarded in a Biohazard Infectious Waste Sharps Container. There is one in every school Medical Clinic or Student Services Office. (Example: A diabetic student would use a Sharp instrument to prick their finger for a blood sugar test.)

**Assume all blood or body fluids are contaminated and potentially harmful to your health.**

The following are the potential sources for occupational exposure in the school setting: Blood, vomit, urine, feces (bowel movement), saliva (spit, secretions from the mouth or lungs), needles, syringes or other Sharp instruments. **Note:** Soiled feminine hygiene/sanitary napkins, soiled facial tissues, bandages, etc. are not considered a biohazard or medical waste; however, in handling these materials employees should wear gloves and wash hands with antibacterial soap after contact.

# **Universal Precautions**

## **Casual Contact**

Casual contact is not a risk. and includes activities such as:

- A hug or handshake,
- Using a telephone or drinking from a water fountain,
- Using a toilet,
- Sitting next to someone
- Wiping someone's tears or having someone's sweat touch you.

## **Hand Washing Procedures**

Frequent hand washing reduces the risk of spread of diseases. The following are recommended procedures for hand washing:

- Before assisting a student or employee with a medical procedure,
- After physical contact with blood or body fluids,
- After contact with soiled equipment, and
- After removing gloves

### ***How to wash your hands***

- Wet hands with running water,
- Dispense cleanser on hands,
- Wash vigorously for 15 seconds,
- Rinse under running water
- Dry thoroughly.
- When no water is available, use wet wipes or waterless cleanser. Wash hands with soap and water as soon as possible.

## **Barriers to Prevent Infection**

Barriers are your defense between your body and the body fluids from someone else. Barriers will help prevent the following infectious diseases:

- HIV (responsible for AIDS virus),
- Hepatitis A & B,
- Staphylococcus (Staph),
- Streptococcus (Strep).

# **Universal Precautions**

## **Barriers available for your use**

Gloves should be available in every school/work location; including school buses. If gloves are not available, use a plastic bag, gauze, newspaper, or paper towel. Use gloves to change a diaper, change clothes soiled with body fluids, feed a student, clean mats, or clean equipment soiled with body fluids.

Micro Shield disposable masks should be used in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). If a mask is not available, a piece of gauze can be used to cover the mouth.

## **Hepatitis-B Virus (HBV) Vaccinations**

Health Professionals and those required to provide first aid or emergency response duties or medical care on a routine basis are recommended for Hepatitis-B Virus (HBV) immunizations at Board of Education expense.

## **Post Exposure Treatment and Notification Procedures**

Should an employee experience an “occupational exposure”, the affected employee must report the exposure to the immediate supervisor. "Occupational exposure" is defined as blood or body fluid contact from an injured or ill employee/student to the affected employee, or injury by a contaminated sharp object.

This may include contact via broken skin, human bites, needle sticks, etc. Upon documentation of an “occupational exposure”, the school will provide for the affected employee to undergo testing for blood borne disease(s) in accordance with recommendations provided by the physician or the health department.

## **Clean Up and Disposal of Waste**

Spills of blood and body fluids must be handled using Universal Precautions Procedures. The spill must be cleaned up immediately. The method recommended by The Center for Disease Control (CDC) is:

- . Wear protective gloves.
- . Mop up spill with paper towels or other absorbent material.

## **Universal Precautions**

- Clean contaminated area using a school system approved disinfectant or Bleach and Water).
- Dispose of all gloves, towels, dressings, table paper and other waste in sealed doubled plastic bags.
- Sharp objects such as needles and syringes must be placed in a Biohazard Infectious Waste
- Sharps Container. Once the container is full, it must be sealed. The nurse should be notified to pick up the full container.

## **Special Care of Laundry**

In Special Education Classroom If clothing, sheets, or towels become contaminated with blood or body fluids, handle as little as possible. Machine-wash the infected items in hot water and detergent for at least 25 minutes. If a washing machine is not available, place the items in double plastic bags and tie tops of the bags. Contact the nurse for assistance.

In a Regular Education Classroom For all clothing that has been soiled with vomit, blood, or feces: Place in double plastic bags and tie top of bag. Send bag home with student.

## **For Protection against Blood Borne Diseases**

Universal Precautions refers to a system of infectious disease control that assumes that every direct contact with body fluids is infectious, and requires every employee exposed to be protected as though such body fluids were infected with blood-borne diseases.

The following are specific steps that must be taken for protection against contamination from infected blood or body fluids of another person, or from injury by a contaminated sharp object:

- Wash hands frequently to reduce the risk of exposure to blood borne diseases.
- Wear gloves if there is even a possibility you might have contact with another person's body fluids.
- After the removal of gloves or after exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials, wash hands with antibacterial soap.
- Wear gloves once and discard; do not attempt to wash and reuse.

## Universal Precautions

- Clothing or supplies contaminated with body fluids should be placed in double plastic bags and tied.
- Used needles or Sharps instruments must be discarded in a Biohazard Infectious Waste Sharps Container. There is one in every school Medical Clinic or Student Services Office.

**Assume all blood or body fluids are contaminated and potentially harmful to your health.**

I have read and agree to abide by the Universal Precautions Procedures as outlined above. I understand that if I have any questions or concerns I may contact my immediate supervisor, the district office or the school nurse.

---

Printed Name

---

Date

---

Signature