INFECTION CONTROL FOR BODY SUBSTANCE PRECAUTIONS

POLICY

Universal precautions will be used whenever body fluids are present. Using gloves and washing hands is the most effective infection control procedure.

PROCEDURE

Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), the virus that causes AIDS, is transmitted through: sexual contact, exposure to infected blood or blood components, and prenatally from mother to neonate. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) published "recommendations for prevention of HIV transmission in health care settings", in 1987. It recommends blood and body fluid precautions be used consistently for all patients regardless of their infectious status. This extension of blood and body fluid precautions to all patients is referred to as universal blood and body fluid precautions or universal precautions.

The CDC (1988) update on universal precautions lists the following body fluids as requiring universal precautions:

1. Blood or other body fluids containing visible blood
2. Semen, vaginal secretions
3. Tissues

In addition to the above, universal precautions should be taken when coming into contact with any of the following:

1. Feces
2. Nasal secretions
3. Sputum
4. Sweat
5. Tears
6. Urine
7. Vomitus
8. Saliva

In the Marin County Jail, all facility staff must consider all persons as potentially infected with HIV, Hepatitis B virus, or other blood-borne pathogens and adhere rigorously to infection control precautions as suggested by the CDC for minimizing the risk of exposure to blood and body fluids.
For cleaning and decontaminating spills and other body fluids, the following procedure is recommended:

1. Gather equipment:
   - 2 pair of disposable latex gloves
   - 4 clean rags
   - 15 paper towels
   - 23" X 10" X 39" - 1.5 ml disposable bag (red)
   - 23" X 10" X 39" - 1.5 ml disposable bag (clear)
   - 1 bottle of a "hospital disinfectant" or a bleach and water solution of 1 part bleach to 10 parts water

2. Open large clear bag and red bag, place them next to each other.
3. Put on one pair of gloves.
4. Use paper towels to absorb as much of the fluid as possible, then place paper towels in the clear bag.
5. Pour hospital disinfectant or bleach solution carefully onto the spill area. Dispose of empty bottle in clear plastic bag. Liquid bleach solution should not be poured directly on blood spills. Besides fumes that are dangerous, the dilution may get diluted further and not be effective. Mop up as much fluid as possible with paper towels first. (see #4)
6. Use rags to clean the area. Place rags in the clear plastic bag.
7. Tie off the clear plastic bag and place inside the red trash bag for contaminated waste. Remove gloves carefully and place in the red bag.
8. Put on the second pair of gloves.
9. Tie the red bag closed and dispose of it in a covered waste receptacle.
10. If the second pair of gloves become contaminated during transport of the bag, they must be disposed of in the covered waste receptacle. If they are not contaminated, they may be disposed of in the regular waste.
11. WASH YOUR HANDS!

The equipment for cleaning should be located where there is access to water. All equipment should be accessible and easily assembled by the clean-up person. If a bleach solution is used, it must be prepared every 24 hours; thus, if this is not convenient, a stable hospital disinfectant should be used. A good hospital disinfectant must be a chemical germicide approved for use as a hospital disinfectant and is tuberculocidal when used at recommended dilutions to decontaminate spills of blood and other body fluids.

RELATED STANDARDS:
None

DATE REVISED
8-3-94

By order of
JAMIE SCARDINA
BUREAU COMMANDER