WORK PLACE EXPOSURE TO COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

POLICY

If during the course of a work assignment, an employee has direct contact with blood or other bodily fluids, a cut on the face, (eye or mouth splashes), or is unsure whether an occurrence constitutes the likelihood of such an exposure an Exposure Incident Report and Workman's Comp Claim shall be filed.

PROCEDURE

When a staff member has or suspects he/she has had an exposure to a communicable disease, the staff member shall do the following:

1. Cleanse the area thoroughly with soap and warm water for at least 3 minutes, then rinse with copious amounts of warm water.
2. If the exposure includes extensive contamination of clothes, put on gloves; remove soiled articles and rinse skin surfaces with soapy water.
3. Remove gloves carefully and wash hands thoroughly with warm soapy water for at least 3 minutes.
4. Redress with clean garments.
5. Fill out an Exposure Incident form and Workers Comp. Claim (forms kept by Sergeants) and forward it to medical.
6. It is recommended all staff keep current with their immunizations, especially tetanus boosters. Measles and rubella are also encouraged if there is no history of the disease.

Upon receiving an exposure report the medical staff will promptly review the report to determine whether the exposure constitutes the risk of transmission for a communicable disease. The employee will be given the opportunity for HIV antibody testing if they desire. All information will be maintained in the confidential manner as currently exists for a work related illness or injury. Any testing which is ordered will only be performed based upon informed signed consent by the employee. The refusal of any employee to such tests, will in no way affect employment status. It is clearly understood by everyone if such testing does occur, it should include an initial test with a repeat serial testing for a minimum of one year.

The department will ensure all staff receive a minimum of four hours annual core training to include AIDS and communicable diseases. The agency will also provide additional update training sessions when it is determined by the director and the jail Physician to be warranted.

RELATED STANDARDS:
General Order GN91-05
DATE REVISED
None

By order of

DANIEL PAYNE
BUREAU COMMANDER