

Section 7: **Principles of Cleaning and Disinfecting Environmental Surfaces**

Policy number: **7.15**

Subject: **Management of Biological Spills**

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Revised:

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 Spills of blood and other body substances, such as urine, faeces and emesis, must be contained, cleaned and the area disinfected immediately to prevent the transmission of infectious disease to clients, staff, and visitors within a health facility.

2 POLICY

- 2.1 All spills of blood and other body substances within a health facility must be contained, properly cleaned and the area disinfected immediately. Staff will be trained in the proper application of personal protective equipment (PPE), and the correct use of chemicals in order to clean and disinfect any spills.

3 PROCEDURE

- 3.1 Responsibility and Reporting:
 - 3.1.1 All health care providers and personnel that are at risk of a blood or body substance exposure, are expected to be immunized and to maintain up-to-date immunization status as outlined in the edition of the Health Canada Occupational Health Assessment Guidelines (OHAG) according to Annex G (Tuberculosis) and Annex O (Recommended Immunizations and Screening Tests Related to Occupational Exposure). (Refer to Policy 1.1: Staff Immunization; Policy 1.2: Staff TST Screening/Assessment).
 - 3.1.2 Non-immunized staff should be offered all recommended immunizations including hepatitis B immunization at no cost to the employee. (Refer to Policy 1.1: Staff Immunization).
 - 3.1.3 If a spill of blood and/or other body substances such as urine, faeces and emesis, occurs, it is the responsibility of the health care provider to notify the environmental cleaning staff immediately to have the spill tended to. If an environmental cleaner is not available it is the responsibility of the health care provider to tend to the spill appropriately and as soon as possible.
 - 3.1.4 All assigned personnel who are cleaning up a biological spill, must be familiar with this procedure as per *FNIHB-OR Environmental Cleaning Procedure Manual*.

- 3.1.5 All staff who clean up a biological spill must wear PPE as required, according to the size and nature of the spill (i.e. gloves, gown, mask with eye protection)
- 3.1.6 Following the cleanup of the spill, the incident should be reported to the NIC and/or appropriate manager and documented, including suggestions for preventing a similar incident in the future.
- 3.2 **Cleaning Procedure for Spills on a Hard Surface Floor:** Refer to *FNIHB-OR Environmental Cleaning Procedure Manual*, Section 8.0.
- 3.3 **Cleaning Procedure for cleaning a Spill of Blood or Body Substance on Carpet:** Refer to *FNIHB-OR Environmental Cleaning Procedure Manual*, Section 8.0.
- 3.4 Carpeting is discouraged for areas where spills of blood or other body substances may be anticipated (e.g. treatment rooms). Carpeting if used, must be easily removed and replaced (e.g. carpet tiles) if the procedure above is not effective.

4 REFERENCES

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