

Blood and Body Fluid Spills



PURPOSE:

To protect staff, patients and visitors from the spread of infection from blood and body fluid spills

MATERIALS:

- Disposable gloves
- If needed:
 - Disposable gown
 - Disposable mask with eye protection
 - Heavy duty or utility gloves
- Prepared Cleaner/Disinfectant solution in cleaning bucket and mop bucket
- Container for dirty cloths (if using reusable cleaning cloths)
- Cleaning cloths
- Mop and wringer
- Disinfectant wipes
- Paper towels
- Wet floor sign



CLEANING STEPS

1



Do a Risk Assessment

- Determine risk of exposure to germs and the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) required for the task.
- Wear the correct PPE to safely do the job.

2



- Check the area around spill for splashes to determine the area and items needing to be cleaned.
- Set up a wet floor sign.

3



- Limit the spread of the spill by using paper towels to absorb the spill, then safely put the paper towels in a regular plastic garbage bag.
- If the paper towels are dripping wet with blood or body fluids then "double bag" the garbage bags.

4



WALLS/EQUIPMENT and SMALL CARPETED AREAS

- Check the walls and equipment around the spill area for any splashes of blood or body fluids.
- Clean as soon as possible to reduce staining on carpets and other surfaces.
- Wipe these surfaces with Cleaner/ Disinfectant solution using cleaning cloths.
- Allow the cleaned surfaces to air dry.



- The solution bucket needs to be cleaned before use in another area:
 - Empty the bucket into the toilet or designated sink/floor drain and rinse well with water
 - Wipe the inside and outside of the emptied bucket with disinfectant wipes
 - Put used wipes into garbage.
- If continuing to clean other items, refill the cleaning bucket with fresh Cleaner/Disinfectant solution.

5



FLOORS including LARGE CARPETED AREAS:

- Damp mop the entire spill area with the Cleaner/Disinfectant solution from the mop bucket.
- The mop should be damp but not dripping wet when cleaning blood or body fluid spills.
- Allow the Cleaner/Disinfectant solution to air dry.
- Remove the wet floor sign when floor is dry.

6



Remember, before leaving the area of spill cleanup:

- Remove gloves and used Personal Protective Equipment and put them into garbage can.
- Do hand hygiene.
- Put on a clean pair of gloves before you start the next task.

7



- Change mop head and solution before cleaning next area:
 - Remove the mop head and place it in the bucket for mop heads for laundering later
 - Empty the solution into the toilet or designated sink/floor drain and rinse well with water.
- Clean the bucket.



8



Finishing Up: Carpets

- Notify your supervisor to arrange for the carpet to be cleaned with an industrial carpet cleaner as soon as possible.
- This may also be a good time to remove the carpet permanently from the area.
- Carpeting is discouraged for areas in a health facility where spills of blood or other body fluids may be anticipated.

