

WORK PROCEDURE FOR SPILL CLEANUP

- Once any exposure incident has been attended to, clean up spills as soon as possible.
- **Don't clean up blood and certain body fluids unless you have been trained to do so and have the equipment and PPE needed to do so safely.**
- Cleanup kits are provided and available. These kits are can be obtained by contacting the Supervisor.

Procedures for cleaning up spilled blood and certain body fluids should include the following steps:

1. Restrict access to the area.
2. Make sure plastic bags are available for removal of contaminated items from the spill site (follow bagging and labelling procedures). Have diluted bleach or germicide ready.
3. Dispose of any sharps first according the Safe Work Procedure for Picking Up Sharps (see District OH&S Manual or District website).
4. Wear disposable, waterproof gloves (available from office). If necessary, wear other PPE, such as a face shield and a gown, to act as a barrier against contact with blood and certain body fluids and the dilute household bleach. If using a germicide, check the material safety data sheet (MSDS) to find out what type of glove to use.
5. Cover your shoes or boots with disposable, waterproof covers if they could become contaminated during clean up.
6. Wipe up visible material first with disposable towels (or in another way that prevents direct contact with blood and certain body fluids). Dispose of the material and paper towels in waterproof garbage bags.
7. After you have carefully removed all the obvious material, it may be necessary to change gloves. Then decontaminate the area by carefully pouring over the spill site a germicide approved for use as a hospital disinfectant, or a solution of household bleach and water. Leave the solution on for 10 minutes, and then wipe it up with disposable towels. Discard the towels in the waterproof garbage bags.
8. Clean and decontaminate all soiled, reusable equipment and supplies. Properly discard any disposable items.
9. Wear the gloves to remove other protective equipment such as face shields and footwear covers. Dispose of or clean PPE (for example, face shields, aprons, boot covers) according to the manufacturer's directions
10. Properly remove and dispose of your gloves. **Wash your hands.**

BLEACH SOLUTION

A solution of 1 part of common household bleach to 100 parts of water (1:100 ratio) will kill HIV and the hepatitis B and C viruses except with spills involving a large amount of blood. With spills involving large amounts of blood, apply a solution of 1 part common household bleach to 10 parts of water (1:10 ratio). In both cases, leave the solution on for about 10 minutes. You can also use a germicide that is approved for use as a health care disinfectant

Caution: Do not mix cleaning chemicals such as bleach and ammonia, and ensure that you follow MSDS directions concerning the use of the cleaning agent.

Reference: WCB HIV/AIDS, and Hepatitis B and C Preventing Exposure at Work

