

## BLOOD SPILL CLEAN UP

### Policy & Procedure

**Policy:**

It is the policy of this facility to respond promptly to biohazard conditions that may increase the risk of the spread of infection.

**Procedure:** The following procedures are intended to assist in cleaning up small spills of blood, blood products and other body fluids. (For larger spills that go beyond your ability to clean with the supplies on hand, contact OSHA Haz Mat by dialing 911).

1. **Required personal protective equipment (PPE)** – prior to beginning the clean up, put on a pair of rubber, latex, PVC or similar type gloves.
2. For small blood spills no other PPE should be required.
3. For larger spills where there is a possibility of contaminating your face or other parts of your body, call HazMat to perform the clean-up.
4. Obtain a spill kit containing:
  - a. 10% bleach solution (or Lysol, Virex or other EPA reg. Tuberculocidal)
  - b. Gloves
  - c. Clear plastic bags
  - d. Biohazard labels (available from OSHA HazMat)
  - e. Leak-proof sharps containers
  - f. Brush and dustpan or tongs or forceps for picking up sharps
  - g. Disinfectant wipes
5. Spill decontamination procedures:
  - a. Cover the spill area with a paper towel and then pour freshly mixed 10% bleach and water solution on the towel.
  - b. Allow solution to soak into the contaminated material.
  - c. Work from the outside edges of the spill inward when applying the bleach solution.
  - d. Any glass, needles or other sharp objects that may puncture the skin will not be picked up by hand.
  - e. Only mechanical means such as a brush and dustpan, tongs, or forceps are to be used to pick up sharps.

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- f. Wipe up bleached material with paper towels or absorbent pads. It may be necessary to use a scrub brush to remove the material if it impacted a hard, porous surface such as concrete.
  - g. If porous surface such as a carpet have been contaminated, an outside vendor may be needed to clean the area.
6. Disposal :
- a. Place bleached material, gloves and other disposable materials into a labeled biohazard bag and place into either another labeled biohazard bag or container.
  - b. Ensure lids are firmly sealed on all waste containers when spill clean-up is complete, keep biohazard waste container in a secured area until received by the approved medical waste professional.
7. Decontaminate re-useable equipment:
- a. Decontaminate with the bleach solution all potentially contaminated re-useable tools or protective equipment used in the cleanup.
  - b. This includes dustpans, brooms, forceps, buckets, etc.
  - c. Anything that cannot be effectively cleaned (bleach solution must be able to make contact with all surfaces) must be placed in a biohazard waste container in a secured area until received by the approved medical waste professional.
  - d. After the contaminated area has been cleaned, use fresh water to remove bleach residue from all surfaces.
8. If handwashing facilities are not available at the job site use disinfectant wipes and then wash hands as soon as possible.
9. If you believe you were exposed (skin puncture or splash to eyes or mucous membranes) to biohazard material that had not been decontaminated with the bleach solution:
- a. Vigorously wash affected skin with plenty of soap and water while removing contaminated clothing and shoes.
  - b. Wash eyes for at least 10 minutes with copious amounts of water, lifting the upper and lower eyelids occasionally.
  - c. Seek follow-up medical attention by contacting your supervisor for referral to the Occupational Health Clinic.

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#### **DEFINITIONS:**

**Small Spill** A volume that is easily managed with a minimal amount of decontamination equipment and materials.

**Large Spill** A volume that would require more than one person, large amounts of decontamination equipment material, and/or contamination of objects that would prove difficult to decontaminate (i.e., rugs, mattresses, furniture, electronic gear).

**Major Spill** Large amounts of blood and/or tissue (usually as a result of a homicide or suicide).

**Micro-encapsulation Absorbent**

A dry material that rapidly converts a liquid into a solid. This material greatly simplifies blood spill clean-up and can be obtained through any lab safety vendor.

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I have read, understand and agree to adhere to the requirements outlined in this policy and procedure.

Administrator Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Director Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Review Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

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