



2016 e newsletter # 5 - June

Your Body Fluid Spills management Policy

In each of the 10 e newsletters for 2016, I am previewing a policy template - how do yours compare? Each of the 14 policy templates includes: procedures, resources, contacts, references and further notes and is available for purchase.

1. PREAMBLE

Body fluid spills in a health care facility (HCF) provide an opportunity for transmission of infection. Therefore such spills need to be managed quickly and safely to: reduce risk of transmission of infection; so that staff are not put at further risk; and for aesthetics.

2. POLICY

- 2.1 It is acknowledged that some body fluids e.g. blood, present a greater risk of infection transmission than others e.g. urine. Regardless of type of body fluid, standard precautions are used with all body fluid spills.
- 2.2 Adequate personal protective equipment (PPE) is provided throughout and spill kits are provided in the treatment room to facilitate safe spills management. All staff know to replace a used items from the kit with materials in the stores cupboard. The method for safe management of the spill is on a sheet inside the spill kit.
- 2.3 All clinical staff, receptionists and cleaners receive training in safe body fluid spill management as part of induction by the Practice Nurse who has had training / updates / competency checking in the last two years.
- 2.4 Cleaners do not manage body fluid spills or clean suspect/ known contaminated areas nor handle clinical waste bags. They do not clean the instrument processing area. Hep B protection of all staff including the cleaner is provided by the practice.
- 2.5 Known contaminated material in the waiting room e.g. pamphlets used by suspect influenza or gastro patient is disposed of to clinical waste.
- 2.6 Procedures, resources, references and notes to assist policy interpretation for correct management of various body fluid spills are found attached to this policy.

Procedures included in the policy

- managing a drop of blood on a treatment couch
- managing a vomit spill on a solid surface e.g. vinyl

Spill kit with instructions and suggested list of contents

- 2 pair of examination gloves
- 2 disposable aprons
- 2 surgical masks
- 1 pair of safety glasses
- 2 glad bags of kitty litter or similar absorbent material
- Small purse pack of detergent wipes
- Two small yellow clinical waste bags and ties
- 4 pieces of cardboard for scooping