

Universal Precautions

Universal Blood and Body Fluid Precautions

Any contact with blood or bodily fluids has to be considered contagious. As such, precautions have to be taken to prevent cross contamination of infectious items.

1. Appropriate barriers shall be in place. Gloves will be worn for touching blood, body fluids, mucous membranes or non-intact skin. Gloves will be changed after contact with each individual. Masks, protective eyewear, or face shields should be worn in situations that might generate droplets of blood or other body fluids, to prevent exposure to mucous membranes of the mouth, nose and eyes. Gowns or aprons should be worn during situations likely to generate splashes of blood or other body fluids.
2. Hands and other skin surfaces shall be washed immediately and thoroughly if contaminated with blood or body fluids. Hands shall be washed immediately after gloves are removed.
3. Needles used by students and staff shall **not** be recapped. They shall be disposed of in sharps containers located in the main office or health room.
4. Needle sticks and human or animal bites that break the skin shall be washed immediately with soap and water. **Cover the wound after thorough washing. Employees who are bitten or who receive a needle stick should access the "Call a Nurse" system at 1-888-375-0279, seek medical attention, and submit a worker's comp claim. For students who receive a needle stick or who are bitten, a student injury report should be submitted and parents contacted.**
5. Students or staff with lesions, cuts, weeping dermatitis or scrapes shall have them covered at all times.
6. Spills of blood or other body fluids must be secured to prevent the spill from spreading and protect others from coming in contact with the spill. Cleaning of blood and other body fluids shall be conducted by the custodial staff using "hospital disinfectants."
7. The custodial staff will properly identify and dispose of blood contaminated clothes, linens, towels, rags or cloths.

Please contact the Nurses office if questions or concerns arise at 435-734-4800 ext. 128.