


2251 UNIVERSAL PRECAUTION	
Chapter: Sununu Youth Services Center	Section: Healthcare
	New Hampshire Division for Children, Youth and Families Policy Manual Policy Directive: _____ Approved: _____ Effective Date: 01-01-09 Scheduled Review Date: 01-01-11
	William W. Fenniman, DJJS Director
Related Statute(s): _____ Related Admin Rule(s): _____ Related Federal Regulation(s): _____	Related Form(s): _____ Bridges' Screen(s) and Attachment(s): _____

Because medical history and physical examination cannot readily identify all residents infected with HIV/HBV or other blood-borne pathogens, universal precautions (also known as universal blood and body fluid precautions) shall be consistently used at the John H. Sununu Youth Services Center (SYSC).

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish Universal Precaution procedures.

Procedure

I. Body Fluid

A. Body fluids to which universal precautions apply:

1. Blood and to other body fluids containing visible blood.
2. Tissues and the following fluids are secretions: semen, vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), synovial fluid, pleural fluid, pericardial fluid, and amniotic fluid.

B. Bodily fluids to which universal precautions do not apply:

1. Feces, nasal secretions, saliva, sputum, tears, urine, and vomit, unless they contain visible blood.

II. General Procedures

A. All employees shall routinely use appropriate barrier precautions to prevent skin and mucous membrane exposure when contact with blood and/or body fluids visibly containing blood of any resident is expected.

B. Gloves shall be worn for touching blood and body fluids, for handling items or surfaces soiled with blood or body fluids, and while performing venipuncture and other vascular access procedures. Universal precautions should be utilized in any instance that any person has open wounds, sores, weeping dermatitis, or has the potential for an assault (e.g., scratching or biting). Gloves shall be changed after contact with each resident.

- C. Masks or protective eyewear or face shield shall be worn during procedures that are likely to generate droplets of blood or other body fluids to prevent exposure of mucous membranes of the mouth, nose, and eyes (e.g., venipuncture procedures).
- D. Moisture repellent gowns or aprons shall be worn during procedures that are likely to generate splashes of blood or other body fluids.
- E. Wound dressings, gloves, and other items in contact with potentially infectious waste shall be disposed of in red bags and put in the contaminated waste cans.
- F. Hands and other skin surfaces shall be washed immediately and thoroughly with an anti-microbial soap if contaminated with blood. Hands shall be washed immediately after gloves are removed.
- G. All employees shall take precautions to prevent injuries caused by needles, scalpels, and other sharp instruments or devices during procedures, when cleaning used instruments, during disposal of used needles, and when handling sharp instruments after procedures.
 - 1. To prevent needle stick injuries, needles shall not be recapped, purposely bent, broken by hand, removed from disposable syringes, or otherwise manipulated by hand.
 - 2. After use, disposable syringes and needles, scalpel blades, and other sharp items shall be placed in puncture resistant containers for disposal.
 - 3. Puncture resistant containers shall be located as close as practical to the use area.
 - 4. All disposable razors shall also be disposed of in puncture resistant containers.
- H. Although saliva has not been implicated with HIV transmission, to further minimize the risk of viral transmission for emergency mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, Seal Easy Masks equipped with one-way valves, resuscitation bags, or other ventilation devices shall be available for use and stored in numerous accessible areas.
- I. Employees who are exhibiting lesions or weeping dermatitis shall report their condition to their supervisor, who will then consult with the Nursing Manager or designee.
- J. Any laundry items contaminated with potentially infectious body fluids shall be placed in red laundry bags and labeled as "contaminated" to be laundered per policy for contaminated laundry.
- K. Body Fluid Clean-Up Kits shall be available in numerous accessible areas. They shall be utilized when housekeeping staff are unavailable to clean body fluid spills.
 - 1. Equipment needed:
 - (a) Spray pump bottle filled with germicide OR a fresh mixture of bleach and water (1:7 ratio),

- (b) Plastic bags with closures,
 - (c) Red plastic bags with enclosures,
 - (d) Paper towels,
 - (e) Disinfectant towels,
 - (f) Non-latex gloves
2. Procedure to follow:
- (a) Open clean plastic bag; create a 6-inch cuff around the opening of the bag (to prevent contamination outside the bag) by folding the opening of the bag inside out.
 - (b) Put on gloves.
 - (c) Mix bleach and water (if not using prepared germicide)
 - (d) Wipe up body fluid with absorbent paper towels. Discard soiled towels in plastic bag.
 - (e) Remove gloves and place in plastic bag. Note: If body fluid contains visible blood, place plastic bag inside red plastic bag and seal.
 - (f) Disinfect surfaces, including absorbent materials (fabrics) that may contain residual fluids by spraying the areas with the bleach or germicide solution.
 - (g) Clean hands with towelette or soap and water if readily available. Dispose of red-bag waste in the nearest contaminated waste can. If no visible blood, deposit clear plastic bag in any waste can.
 - (h) Wash hands with soap and water as soon as possible.

III. **Training Required**

- A. All new employees and rehires shall have an initial orientation that includes instruction on modes of transmission, prevention of HIV and other blood-borne infections, and the need for routine use of universal precautions for all residents. All staff shall have continuing education and training on the same information.