

## SOP Bio-011 FOR CLEANING BLOOD AND BODY FLUID SPILLS

### SCOPE

These procedures apply to all personnel whose job description may require cleaning spills of bodily fluids such as blood semen, vomit, feces, and urine.

### DEFINITIONS

**Body fluids** are materials originated in the human body and can be liquid (blood, urine, diarrhea, semiliquid (vomit, semen, phlegm/saliva) or solid (feces).

**Bloodborne pathogens (BBP)** are microorganisms that can be present in blood (and bodily fluids that contain visible blood) that cause diseases in humans, and are inactivated by using specific disinfectants;

**Universal Precautions** are safeguards that consider all body fluids as if contaminated with BBP. Therefore, work practices should be followed to avoid any exposure. These include use of gloves, forceps or dustpan/brush to pick up broken glass and disinfection of hands after finishing work.

**Personal protective equipment (PPE)** is equipment, such as disposable gloves and safety glasses, that all personnel should wear when cleaning bodily fluids;

**Disinfectants** are compounds that destroy or kill microorganisms, such as viruses and bacteria, that can be present in bodily fluids.

**Disinfectant Cleaner** (Non-Acid Bowl and Bathroom Disinfectant) is the disinfectant that is used at UMass Lowell and is effective against HIV and other viruses and infectious bacteria.

### BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

BBP training is a requirement for all personnel that for reasons of work can be potentially exposed to blood or other body fluids and must be refreshed yearly.

### MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES

1. Disposable gloves and safety glasses
2. Absorbent material such as paper and/or cloth towels, rags, seedy dry, etc.;
3. Dust pan, brush or broom, mop;
4. Garbage bags for collection and disposal of body fluids without blood.
5. **Red biohazard** bags to be used only if the spill contains blood;
6. Bleach 10% freshly prepared or any EPA approved disinfectant.

### ASSESSMENT

When you arrive at an area for cleaning bodily fluids spills, take a few minutes to assess the situation before beginning the cleaning.

1. Is there a person hurt and alone? For medical assistance call **978-934-911**;
2. Look carefully at the area and notice if there are sharp objects such as needles, syringes, broken glass; **DO NOT TOUCH WITH BARE HANDS**;
3. Look at the spill and decide if it is within your means to handle. If the clean-up is out of your control, call 978-934-4911 from your cellphone or ext 4-4911 from land line;

## PROCEDURE

1. Wear appropriate PPE: put on two pairs of disposable gloves and a pair of safety glasses;
2. Allow aerosol to settle 20-30 minutes and gather materials and supplies that will be needed (disinfectant, paper towels, garbage bags, biohazardous waste bag) to clean the spill;
3. Remove sharp objects always mechanically using forceps, dust pan and brush, etc.;
4. Pour disinfectant (10% bleach or any other EPA approved disinfectant) around the perimeter of the spill. Approved disinfectant, used by housekeeping can be used;
5. Cover the spill with absorbent material;
6. Apply/pour disinfectant on top of absorbent material;
7. Wait at least 20-30 minutes for contact-time disinfection;
8. Blot up all material until no sign of the spilled material is present and collect all soiled waste;
9. The disposal of soiled waste will depend if there is visible blood in the spill:  
For blood spill and body fluid spills with **visible blood**:
  - a. Remove the outside disposable gloves and place them in a **Red biohazard** bag with all soiled cleaning materials and close tightly;
  - b. The biohazard bag will be picked up by EHSFor spill of body fluid with **no visible blood**:
  - a. Clean up using additional absorbent material if necessary and collect the waste in garbage bags;
  - b. Remove the outside disposable gloves and place them in the garbage bag;
  - c. Close it and discard it in the regular trash.
10. When finishing the cleaning, take out the second disposable gloves and wash hands with soap and water. Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.

For any questions about BBP-training and this SOP, contact EHS at 978-934-2618.