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SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURES

Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens

SOP 10-6

- 1) Always treat blood, bodily fluids and used hypodermic needles as if they are infected with transmittable diseases using Universal Precautions.
- 2) Report any accident/incident involving the transfer of blood, bodily fluids or needle sticks to the supervisor immediately.
- 3) Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be provided and used by all employees considered to be at risk of infection.
- 4) Gloves are to be worn for touching blood, bodily fluids, mucous membranes or non-intact skin of all persons, for handling items including used hypodermic needles or surfaces soiled with blood or bodily fluids, and for rendering assistance to injured persons.
- 5) Always wash hands and arms after helping a victim. If washing facilities are not available, transport the exposed individual to a facility where soap and water are available.
- 6) For employees trained in CPR, separate yourself from direct contact with the victim by using a face shield or mask, or one-way resuscitating device.
- 7) Any items located that are believed to be human waste products (i.e., blood, soiled clothing, used hypodermic needles, or items identified with the universal biohazard symbol) should be handled only with personal protective equipment.
- 8) All items known to be contaminated with blood or bodily fluids should be disposed of in a plastic bag, along with gloves and other protective equipment used in the disposal process. Used hypodermic needles should be collected in a “sharps” or plastic puncture proof container. These should then be labeled as to its contents and your Safety staff notified for disposal procedures using one of NCDOT Hazardous Waste Contract services.
- 9) All equipment and working surfaces shall be decontaminated with an appropriate disinfectant to eliminate the potential for infection.
- 10) NCDOT will provide a free hepatitis B vaccination for employees considered at the greatest risk of infection.
- 11) A copy of the exposure control plan is available by request for all employees to review, (Bloodborne Pathogens SPP #1910.1030.)



Biohazard Symbol

This is a universal symbol identifying material or objects contaminated with human blood or bodily fluids.

Related SOP's

General SOP's.....Chapter 10