

**UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS
BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS
WHAT SCHOOL STAFF NEED TO KNOW**



BELMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SEPTEMBER 2017

OBJECTIVES

- Provide school staff with education regarding the safe handling of all bodily fluids
- Provide school staff with education regarding proper hand washing technique and proper technique to put on and remove gloves
- Provide school staff with information regarding proper disposal of contaminated materials
- Provide school staff with gloves and Band-Aids

REGULATIONS

- Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requires each school district to have a bloodborne pathogen exposure control plan
- Staff training should occur on an annual basis

WHAT ARE BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS?

- Bloodborne pathogens are germs in the blood that can cause disease in humans
- These pathogens include, but are not limited to, Hepatitis B virus (HBV), Hepatitis C virus (HCV), and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), the virus that causes AIDS

UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS

- Refers to a set of protocols for handling blood and bodily fluids properly (vomit, saliva, urine, feces)
- All substances are assumed to be potentially infectious
- ***Universal* because you should treat everyone as if he or she were infected**
- ***Precautions* because they are intended to protect you and the person you are assisting**
- Universal Precautions can protect you and prevent the spread of diseases while ensuring confidentiality

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Universal precautions include

- Hand washing
- Avoiding punctures
- Utilizing gloves when handling blood and body fluids
- Using containers with plastic liners to dispose of contaminated tissues
- Having special containers for disposing of contaminated sharp objects
- Promptly washing blood and other body fluids from skin
- Cleaning hard surfaces with a disinfectant (e.g., diluted household bleach)

POSSIBLE BLOODBORNE EXPOSURES IN THE SCHOOL SETTING

- Scrapes and abrasions
- Puncture wound
- Bloody nose
- Loose tooth or tooth that falls out
- Bites
- Recess, physical education class, sport injuries
- Sharps (needles and lancets)

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- **Always wear gloves when you anticipate touching blood, bodily fluids or contaminated surfaces**
- Use disposable gloves when administering first aid
- Cover any cuts with bandages before putting on gloves
- Check gloves for visible tears or defects
- Make sure gloves fit snugly

PUTTING ON GLOVES

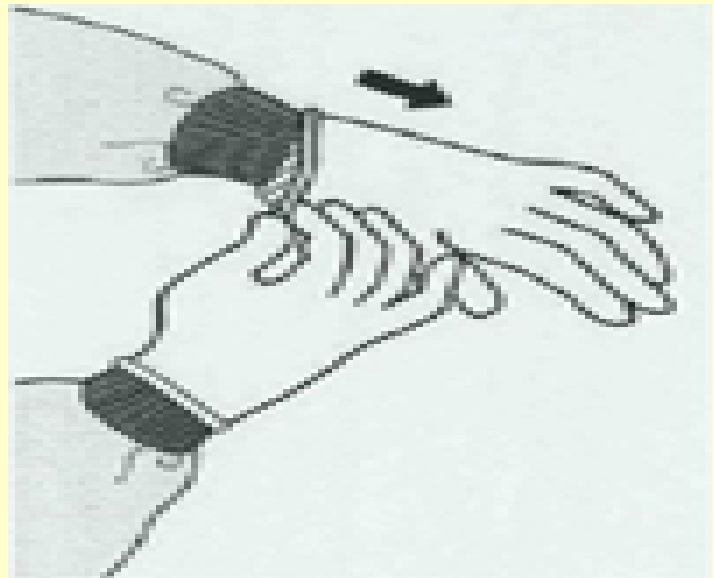
- Pick up one glove with the right hand
- Line the thumb of the glove up with the thumb of the left hand
- Slip the open end of the glove over the left hand and thumb
- Stretch the palm side of the glove with the right hand and pull the glove on to finger level
- Position the fingers of the glove in line with the fingers of the left hand
- Pull the remainder of the glove onto the left hand

PUTTING ON GLOVES (cont'd)

- Pick up the second glove with the gloved left hand
- Line the thumb of the glove up with the thumb of the right hand
- Slip the open end of the glove over the right hand and thumb
- Stretch the palm side of the glove with the left hand, pull the glove on to finger level
- Position the fingers of the glove in line with fingers of the right hand
- Pull the remainder of the glove onto the right hand

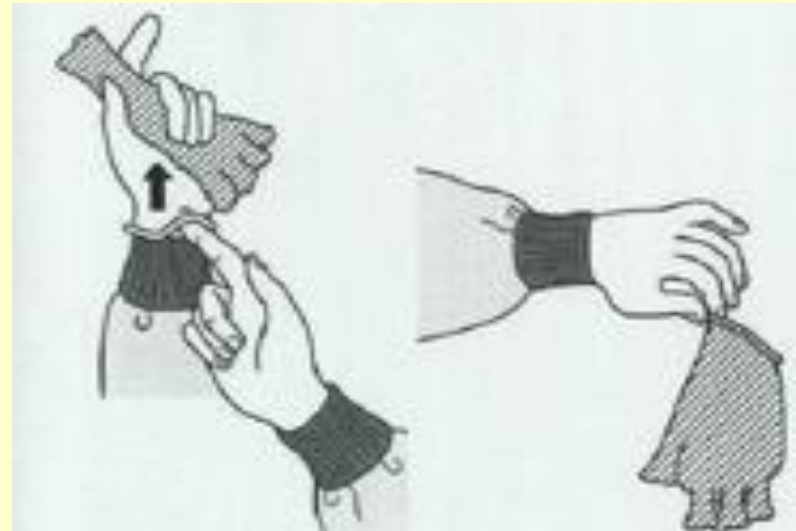
PROPER GLOVE REMOVAL

- Grasp outside edge near wrist
- Peel away from hand turning glove inside-out



GLOVE REMOVAL (cont'd)

- Hold in opposite gloved hand
- Slide ungloved finger under the wrist of the remaining glove, be careful not to touch the outside of the glove
- Peel off from inside, creating a bag for both gloves
- Discard
- Wash hands thoroughly



PROPER HANDWASHING TECHNIQUE

- Wet hands thoroughly under warm water
- Dispense soap into wet hands
- Scrub hands with soap paying attention to cleaning in between fingers and rub fingernails in palms
- Wash for at least twenty seconds (or sing *Happy Birthday* once)
- Rinse hands well under warm running water
- Dry hands with a disposable towel
- Use towel to turn off the water and dispose of towel

ALCOHOL BASED HAND SANITIZER

- Apply about 1/2 tsp or quarter size drop of the product to the palm of your hand
- Rub your hands together, covering all surfaces of your hands until they are dry
- Wash hands with soap and water as soon as available

CLEANING

- All blood spills, bodily secretions and excretion must be cleaned up promptly with a disinfectant solution such as a 1:10 dilution of household bleach mixed with tap water
- All disposable supplies and blood soiled refuse should be placed in a receptacle lined with a plastic waste bag, located in a specified area (nurse's office) and disposed of daily

WHAT SHOULD I DO IN THE CASE OF AN EXPOSURE?

- Consult your School Nurse if an exposure occurs
- Injury site should be cleaned with soap and water immediately
- Eyes or mouth should be flushed with tap water

RESOURCES

- Center for Disease Control and Prevention
www.cdc.gov
- National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
www.cdc.gov/niosh
- MA Department of Public Health
www.state.ma.us/dph
- MA Division of Occupational Safety
www.state.ma.us/dos