

# **Infection Control Guidelines for Schools and Daycares**

***Follow these guidelines at ALL times and with ALL individuals to prevent infection .***

## **CARING FOR WOUNDS**

A person with a bleeding wound or bloody nose should apply pressure to it. If necessary, another person can help by pressing the bleeding person's hand.

Use a barrier to avoid direct contact with blood (or any body fluid that might contain blood). Use latex gloves if possible, or whatever is handy such as clothing or a paper towel.

Keep skin cuts, abrasion and sores clean and covered.

## **CLEANING UP**

Remove each glove without exposing skin to the glove's exterior.

Always wash hands promptly and thoroughly with soap and warm water after contact with blood or body fluids that might contain blood, even if gloves or other barriers were used.

Cover spills of blood, vomit and urine with absorbent material to prevent fluids from spreading; then clean it up using standard procedures.

Clean surfaces where blood or other body fluids were spilled with one cup bleach to nine cups water. Wear rubber utility gloves when cleaning up soiled areas.

## **DISPOSAL**

Do not reuse latex gloves. Rubber utility gloves can be cleaned and reused, but discard any that are cracked, torn, punctured or otherwise deteriorated.

Discard in a sturdy plastic bag all bandages, disposable gloves and materials used in cleaning spilled blood. Tie the bag and place in a leakproof container.

Rinse and then seal a child's blood-stained clothes in a plastic bag to send home for washing.

## **INFECTION CONTROL GUIDELINES (continued)**

### **SUPPLIES**

First aid kits should include:

- disposable latex gloves
- absorbent bandages and gauze pads in various sizes
- antiseptic premoistened towelettes
- leakproof plastic bags with ties

Place secure sanitary napkin disposal containers in rest rooms.

Stock science labs, sewing rooms and shops with secure disposal containers for items that come into contact with blood.

Playground monitors and athletic trainers should carry a pouch containing latex gloves, bandages and towelettes.

### **PREVENTION**

Teach students to take care of their own minor routine scrapes and cuts, and to wash their hands before and afterwards.

Personal items such as toothbrushes, towels or razors should not be shared at school.

Keeps school or daycare playgrounds and athletic fields clean of broken glass and other sharp objects.