

Universal Precautions or Standard Precautions

Universal precautions are to be taken when handling any bodily fluid. The requirements are as follows:

1. Latex or latex free disposable gloves are to be used when touching any body fluid.
2. Any spill of body fluid is to be cleaned while wearing gloves with ACPS broad-spectrum germicide solution (or a bleach solution) and paper towels.
3. Wash hands before and after every procedure and after removing gloves.
4. If skin contact occurs with body fluids immediately and thoroughly wash with soap and water.
5. Do not recap, bend, or break needles. Dispose of needles, pins, lancets, etc. in designated sharps box.
6. Procedure to control bleeding: utilizing Universal Precautions, staff will don protective gloves and will put pressure on the bleeding wound using sterile gauze if available, or paper towels, tissues, napkins, or clean cloth if not. Blood spills need to be cleaned following OSHA standards above.
7. See *Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure* protocol [here](#).

Click [here](#) to see specific recommendations related to the management of blood borne pathogens in public health settings.