

# Spill Kit – SSW's.

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This summarises the arrangements in place to ensure correct clearing of Body Fluid Spillage, appropriate cleaning methods and safe disposal of materials:

All body fluids are potentially infectious and precautions are necessary to prevent accidental exposure to other people. These precautions include avoiding injury by sharp objects which may have been contaminated with someone else's blood or other body fluid. Every member of staff including volunteers, casuals and others, is accountable for his/her actions and must follow safe practices. In particular, staff must practice good basic hygiene and infection control at all times.

All staff must be aware of how to access equipment to deal with a body fluid spillage. This will be either access to an Emergency Body Fluids Disposal Kit or access to cleaning supplies in a sluice, medical room etc.

COSHH risk assessments should be in place for all chemicals used, generic risk assessments for anticipated occurrences and specific risk assessments may be necessary for some staff who may be at risk of adverse reactions to equipment or chemicals.

## **Body Fluids:**

Body fluids include any fluid that is secreted or excreted by the body. Some examples are tears; saliva; ear wax; mucus; vomit; blood; pus; urine; faeces.

Whilst fluids such as tears rarely present a risk of infection, staff should always be aware of the potential for cross infection from any body fluid. This is particularly important when the fluid has been injected, e.g. a bite or a needle stick injury, or where there are cuts or abrasions on the skin, where infection might enter on contact with contaminated fluid. In all cases, the primary and most effective form of infection control is by thorough efficient hand washing. Where there are cuts or abrasions, these should be covered by an impermeable waterproof adhesive plaster. Where the area is too large to be covered in this way, latex or synthetic gloves should be worn.

In the case of injected risk, the puncture wound should be encouraged to bleed out.

#### **Personal Protective Equipment:**

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) should be worn at all times when dealing with body fluids. Contaminated clothing can spread infection. The use of Protective Clothing is NOT optional.

#### **Gloves:**

For prevention of cross infection and for protection against contaminated fluids and chemicals, gloves must be single use, fitting correctly to minimise the risk of splitting and made of seamless latex or synthetic material. Hands should be washed before putting on the gloves and following removal of the gloves. It is important to wear Body Fluid Spillages Safe System of Work gloves not only when dealing with body fluids but also when cleaning up following a body fluid spillage, to protect against both the fluid and the cleaning chemicals used.

To prevent contamination, gloves should be removed as follows:-

With the left hand, pinch a small area of the right hand glove (at the base of the hand), between thumb and finger and pull towards the fingertips, causing the glove to turn inside out, dispose of the glove in the bin. Then remove the left hand glove, by sliding the fingers of the un-gloved right hand between wrist and glove, taking care not to touch the outer surface of the glove. Push the un-gloved right hand into the left hand glove and towards the fingers, causing it to turn inside out. Dispose of the glove in the bin.

## **Disposable Aprons:**

White disposable aprons must be worn for all care or cleaning activities that may result in contact with body fluids. The aprons should cover the wearer's clothing and on completion of the task, should be removed and disposed of before removal of gloves.

#### Face Masks:

In some cases of specific infections or where using chemicals to clean up a body spillage, it may be advisable to wear a disposable face mask. A risk assessment of the individual member of staff or the specific situation will identify the need for the use of a face mask. e.g. where there is risk of airborne infection. In general, face masks will not be necessary for the cleaning of body fluid spillage.

#### Eye protection:

To protect staff from injury by the chemicals used to clean up or disinfect following spillage of body fluids, including the use of body spillage disposal kits, over glasses or goggles should be used to protect against the risk of chemicals or fluids flicking into the eyes. Plastic over glasses must be provided in all establishments' Emergency Body Fluid Disposal Kits and must be available for use under COSHH regulations.

Disposal of protective and contaminated equipment should be treated as contaminated waste.

#### **Clothing and Bedding:**

Contaminated clothing, bedding and other washable materials should be removed with care and placed in a washable or disposable container prior to sluicing if it is necessary to remove excreta. It should then be placed in a red hot water soluble bag, inside of a red laundry bag to indicate the possibility of the contents being contaminated.

Cleaning of Mattresses and Pillows

- Wipe the plastic cover with hot water and detergent
- ♣ If contaminated, use NaDCC solution as directed. Do not disinfect unnecessarily as this damages the mattress cover
- ♣ If the inner mattress becomes contaminated, the mattress should be condemned and disposed of as clinical waste
- ➡ Mattresses of specialised design e.g. pressure relieving mattresses should be cleaned in accordance with the manufacturer's instruction, or as directed by the supplier e.g. Joint equipment store.

## Following a spillage of EXCRETA, BLOOD OR OTHER BODY FLUIDS

Spillages of blood, vomit, urine and excreta must be cleaned up as quickly as possible, and other persons should be kept away from the spillage until it has been effectively dealt with. The following steps should be taken:-

- ♣ Isolate the spillage from other persons, using warning signs, barriers made by chairs etc. taking care to ensure that this does not create a further risk.
- ♣ Put on personal protective clothing and assemble necessary equipment to deal with the spillage, including yellow bio hazard bags and red water soluble laundry bags if necessary
- ♣ If using an Emergency Body Fluids Disposal Kit, apply the spillage compound as directed on the packet, allowing the appropriate time (approx. 90 Seconds) before using the scraper and scoop to remove the residue.
- Dispose of the residue directly into the bio hazard bag.

If clothing belonging to a resident, service user or member of staff becomes contaminated with blood or other body fluid, it should be rinsed with cold water and laundered at a thermal disinfection programme or separately on a hot wash.

#### STORAGE OF BODY FLUIDS DISPOSAL KITS

#### All Ambulances

Emergency Body Fluid Spillage Disposal Kits should be kept in an area which is easily accessible to staff but where the chemicals are not accessible to patients or public, including:

- with the main first aid box
- in open lockers

All staff must know where the equipment is stored and how to use it. Staff have a responsibility to report any missing equipment to the Operations manager.

Each kit should contain at least 5 single use packs and a pair of safety glasses. A member of staff designated to check the ambulance equipment should also be designated to check the Body Fluid Disposal Kit. The packing date must be checked and stocks must be replaced or replenished as necessary.

Body Fluid Disposal kits in AWAS vehicles:

The Emergency Body Fluid Disposal Kit must be secured to the bulk head of the vehicle with the first aid box. Patients and public users must not be able to obtain access to any chemicals such as clean-up powder. After use, the box must be replenished when the vehicle is returned to the station. The packing date must be checked and stocks must be replaced or replenished as necessary.

Bio hazard bags must be stored until the vehicle returns to the work place where they can be disposed of with other clinical waste.

Staff must clean their hands with antiseptic alcohol free wipes after using the kit.

## **CONTENTS OF EMERGENCY BODY FLUID DISPOSAL KITS** Single use packs must contain:

- ♣ 1 contents list
- 4 1 instruction sheet
- ♣ 1 sachet of antiseptic, alcohol-free hand wipes
- 4 1 sachet or sprinkler tub of Emergency Spillage compound
- 1 pair of disposable gloves (un-powdered latex)
- 1 plastic apron
- ♣ 1 disposable scoop and scraper
- 4 1 pink cloth
- 4 1 absorbent cloth
- ♣ 1 Bio Hazard yellow sack
- 1 bottle of disinfectant spray
- ♣ 1 pair of safety over glasses

## Multiple user packs (yellow boxes) must contain:

- 4 1 contents list
- 1 instruction sheet
- ♣ 5 single use packs
- 1 pair of safety over glasses
- 5 bottles of disinfectant spray

## The following should also be available:

- assorted waterproof plasters (these should be available from the first aid box)
- a disposable vomit bowl or disposable bags.

## Replenishing Spill kits:

- ♣ The first aider must check the Emergency Body Fluid Disposal kit after each use or at regular (not less than monthly) periods.
- ♣ The quantity of the stock, dates on the packs and the condition of the box must be checked and the box cleaned if necessary.
- The safety glasses must be checked for condition and cleanliness.
- Out of date stock must be disposed of

## **Version Control Sheet**

Version	Date	Author	Summary of changes
2.1	29.06.16	G.Llewellyn	Review complete policy and update.

Signed on behalf of All Wales Ambulance Services Limited:

Name: Gareth Llewellyn (CEO)

Date: 29/06/2016