

# Appendix 9: Management of blood and body fluid spills



**Infection prevention and control team/health protection team:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Designation: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Blood and/or body fluid spillage.**

Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) e.g. non-sterile disposable gloves and aprons.

Is the spillage on soft furnishing e.g. carpets?

Is it a spill of blood or body fluid as specified in Box1 (below)?

**YES**

**NO**

**YES**

- Apply chlorine releasing granules directly to the spill<sup>1</sup>
- If granules not available place disposable paper towels over spillage to absorb and contain it, applying solution of **10,000 parts per million available chlorine (ppm av cl)** solution to the towels
- Follow manufacturer's instruction for contact time or leave for 3 minutes
- Discard the gross contamination into healthcare waste bag.

<sup>1</sup>All NHS England settings must use granules or equivalent product e.g. spill kits. Organisations may use spill pads for large blood spills, e.g. in theatres.

**Spill contains ONLY urine/faeces/vomit/sputum:**

- **Do not use a chlorine releasing agent directly on a urine spill**
- Soak up spillage/gross contamination using disposable paper towels
- If a urine spillage, a gelling agent can be used.

- Decontaminate area with a solution of **1,000 parts per million available chlorine (ppm av cl)** solution or use a combined detergent/chlorine releasing solution with a concentration of 1,000 ppm av cl
- Follow manufacturer's instructions on contact time.

- **Wash area with disposable paper towels and a solution of general purpose detergent and warm water**
- **Dry area or allow to air dry**
- **Discard paper towels and disposable PPE into healthcare waste bag**
- **Perform hand hygiene.**

- BOX 1**
- Cerebrospinal fluid
  - Peritoneal fluid
  - Pleural fluid
  - Synovial fluid
  - Amniotic fluid
  - Semen
  - Vaginal secretions
  - Breast milk
  - Any other body fluid with visible blood (excluding urine)

**Discuss with IPCT and consider:**

- If the furnishing is heavily contaminated you may have to discard it
- If the furnishing can withstand a chlorine releasing solution then follow appropriate procedure for the type of spillage
- If it is safe to clean with detergent alone then follow appropriate procedure
- If it is not safe to clean with detergent then the item should be discarded.