
 Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board	<b>SECTION:</b> Health & Safety
	<b>POLICY TITLE:</b> Infection Control
<b>ORIGINAL DATE:</b> March, 2012	<b>POLICY AREA:</b> Operations
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## Policy

This policy is established to help safeguard patients and personnel from transmission of infection between patient and personnel during all patient care related activities and to ensure appropriate sanitation practices within the Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board (RRDSSAB) environment.

## Procedure

1. Cleaning and Disinfection
  - a) Hand washing facilities will be cleaned daily. Paper towel dispensers will be refilled and empty soap dispensers will be replaced.
  - b) Walls will be examined for soilage and spot cleaned as needed, with special attention to the walls in the sink area.
  - c) Mirrors will be washed daily with an approved glass cleaner.
  - d) Spills with blood or other potentially infectious materials will be cleaned promptly with an EPA approved disinfectant.
  - e) Uncarpeted floors: Floors will be damp mopped with an approved EPA disinfectant to remove dust and debris.
  - f) Carpeted areas:
    - i. Carpeting in common areas will be vacuumed weekly and spot cleaned as needed.
    - ii. Shampooing of carpet in patient care areas will be done annually and as needed.
  - g) Upholstered chairs will be brushed and vacuumed monthly and as needed. Chairs are spot cleaned when needed.
  - h) The inside surface of windows will be cleaned semi-annually and when visibly soiled.
  - i) Waste container cleaning:
    - i. Biohazard waste containers will be cleaned with an EPA approved disinfectant on a routine basis and as needed.
    - ii. The non-contaminated wastebaskets will be cleaned with an EPA approved disinfectant solution weekly or as needed.

2. Bathrooms will be cleaned once a week and as needed.
  - a) Special attention will be given to the sink, faucet handles, commode and door handles due to high concentration of body fluids that may be present on these surfaces. Soil and organic matter will be removed prior to disinfection.
  - b) Wastebaskets will be cleaned and emptied daily and as needed.
  - c) Paper towel dispensers and toilet tissue dispensers will be refilled.
  - d) Soap dispensers will be checked daily for proper function and replaced as needed. Empty soap dispensers will be replaced with new dispensers.
  - e) Mirrors will be washed with an approved solution.
3. Common Areas (offices, halls, common room, hallways and entrance areas)
  - a) All trash will be removed and wastebaskets emptied daily.
  - b) Surfaces (end tables, shelves, etc) will be dusted weekly.
  - c) Furniture.
3. Vinyl furniture will be wiped weekly with an EPA approved disinfectant solution or when visible soiled.
4. Upholstered chairs will be brushed and vacuumed monthly per facility schedule or as needed.
  - a) The inside surface of windows will be washed bi-annually.

## Appendix A

### Cleaning Spills of Blood and Other Potentially Infectious Material

Use protective gloves and other personal protective equipment (PPE), (clothing, mask, and protective eyewear) appropriate for the task.

1. To clean a small spill (<20ml)
  - a) Use gloves
  - b) Carefully remove visible blood or other potentially infectious material with paper towels or some other absorbent paper and dispose in biohazard waste container.
  - c) Mechanical means should be used to pick up any contaminated sharps or broken glass and place in biohazard sharps containers.
  - d) Clean area with disinfectant (an EPA-registered sodium hypochlorite product such as Dispatch). Allow disinfectant to sit for 10 minutes.
  - e) Wipe with a clean paper towel or air dry.
  - f) Dispose of gloves and all contaminated items in a biohazard waste container.
  - g) Wash hands using soap and water.
  
2. To clean large amounts of blood (>100ml) or more than can be absorbed by paper towels:
  - a) Secure the area to prevent employees or visitors from exposure.
  - b) Report spill to supervisor. Utilize Biohazard spill kit. Contact housekeeping if assistance is needed.
  - c) Don PPE (gloves, gown, mask and eye protection).
  - d) Mechanical means such as forceps should be used to pick up any contaminated sharps or broken glass and place in biohazard sharps containers.
  - e) Remove visible blood or other organic material. A fluid control solidifier may be sprinkled on the spill.
  - f) Discard all cleaning materials in a biohazard waste container.
  - g) Apply disinfectant (an EPA-registered sodium hypochlorite product such as Dispatch) to the spill area, keeping the area wet for 10 minutes.
  - h) Wipe clean or air dry.
  - i) Remove personal protective equipment and place in the biohazard waste container.
  - j) Wash hands using soap and water.