



EXPOSURE CONTROLS FOR BLOOD AND BODILY FLUID

LET'S CONSIDER....

1. What are the risks to your health and safety from exposure to blood and bodily fluids?
2. What types of work activities put you at risk for exposure?
3. Who is responsible to protect your health and safety?
4. How can you control the risks?

DO YOU HAVE A LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP YOURSELF AND CO-WORKERS SAFE?

NS OHS Act is based on an Internal
Responsibility System:

*“Everyone at a workplace shares the
responsibility for the health and safety of
persons at the workplace – to the extent
of their ability and authority to do so.”*

WHAT ABOUT RESPONSIBILITIES?

For employers - this means:

- Providing the right equipment and gear and keeping it safe
- Providing safety instruction and job training
- Giving information about job hazards
- Making sure employees are not exposed to health and safety hazards



WHAT ABOUT RESPONSIBILITIES?

For employees – this means:

- read, understand, and comply with safety policy, work practices, procedures and rules
- Wear required safety equipment and personal protective devices and clothing
- Notify Supervisor of unsafe conditions or act that may endanger themselves or others
- Take reasonable precaution to protect the safety of themselves and others
- Participate in health & safety training



SSRSB'S WRITTEN WORK PROCEDURES AND PRACTICES JOB SPECIFIC

- Hand tools
- Powered hand tools
- Housekeeping and Storage
- Ladders
- Respiratory protection and hearing
- Scaffolds
-
-AND.....
- **Exposure Controls for Blood and Bodily Fluid**

***UPDATED* EXPOSURE CONTROLS FOR BLOOD AND BODILY FLUID**

8.1.26 Exposure Controls for Blood and Bodily Fluid

Purpose

The purpose of these Safe Work Practices and Procedures is to prevent communicable disease transmission in the event of employee exposure to blood and other bodily fluids.

Roles and Responsibilities

In accordance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act, employers and employees share responsibility for working safely. When providing the required support for students, especially for medical and personal care, the roles and responsibilities outlined from the OHS Act are:

- The SSRSB will take every reasonable precaution to:
 - a. Ensure employee and student health and safety. This includes assessing any risks for students and staff associated with the exposure to blood and other bodily fluids.
 - b. Provide and keep equipment associated with preventing disease transmission available and in proper and safe condition.
 - c. Provide necessary information, instruction and training required to perform job safely.
 - d. Provide necessary supervision. Supervisors will communicate and reinforce expectations for fulfillment of job functions, including following established routine practices to prevent disease transmission. Any concerns brought forward by employees are to be addressed promptly and collaborative solutions sought. Performance issues will be handled in accordance with applicable union or employment contracts.
 - e. Ensure that all employees are familiar with any health or safety hazards.
 - f. Ensure that employees are familiar with the proper use of devices, equipment and clothing required for their protection.
 - g. Consult and cooperate with the Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee.
- Every employee, while at work, shall:
 - a. Cooperate with SSRSB and take every reasonable precaution, in the circumstances, to protect their own and everyone's safety.
 - b. Take reasonable precaution in the circumstances to ensure any protective devices, equipment or clothing associated with preventing disease transmission provided by the employer is used or worn as instructed. Any challenges in doing so are to be reported to their Supervisor immediately.

***NEW* EXPOSURE CONTROLS FOR BLOOD AND BODILY FLUID**

PURPOSE:

- **Prevention** of communicable disease transmission

ASSESSING RISK:

All employees (Janitors, Custodians, Teachers, Resource Teachers, Teacher Assistants, Administrators, First Aid Attendants, Administrative Assistants, Bus Drivers, and support staff) have a potential for exposure under any of the following-situations:

- sick students or employees – vomit, diarrhea, mucus membranes
- injured students or employees – cuts or open wounds, nose bleeds, CPR
- students requiring personal care – toileting, diapering, care for sores
- students requiring medical care – needle use, catheters

***NEW* EXPOSURE CONTROLS FOR BLOOD AND BODILY FLUID**

ASSESSING RISK:

All employees need to evaluate the risks of communicable disease exposure in every situation by taking into account:

- The time required to complete the task
- Types of bodily fluid that staff may come in contact with
- The possibility and route of entry for infection
- Environment in which the task is to be carried out
- Preventative measures to be taken for self and others

***NEW* EXPOSURE CONTROLS FOR BLOOD AND BODILY FLUID**

CONTROLLING RISK:

If the risks cannot be eliminated then we need to rely on reducing risk with:

1. Engineering Controls (process control, isolation)
2. Administrative Controls (work practices, education and training, housekeeping, personal hygiene)
3. Personal Protective Equipment (barriers)

***NEW* EXPOSURE CONTROLS FOR BLOOD AND BODILY FLUID**

1. ENGINEERING CONTROLS:

- a. Sharps Disposal Containers
- b. Tools – disposable gloves, hand brush, dust pans, floor caution signs, waste containers, cardboard box, etc.
- c. Waste Management

***NEW* EXPOSURE CONTROLS FOR BLOOD AND BODILY FLUID**

1. ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS:

- a. General Precautions
- b. General Housekeeping and Cleaning Practices
- c. Blood and Bodily Fluid Clean-up Procedures
- d. Hand Washing Practices
- e. Disinfection Practices for tools, equipment and clothing
- f. Procedures for handling needles or sharps
- g. Procedure for unintentional needle stick wounds
- h. Procedure for unintended exposure to other potentially infectious materials

***NEW* EXPOSURE CONTROLS FOR BLOOD AND BODILY FLUID**

1. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE):

- a. Risk Assessment
- b. Exposure Evaluation
- c. PPE Identification and Selection
- d. PPE Use and Removal Procedures
 - a. Disposable Gloves
 - b. Isolation Gowns/Aprons
 - c. Face Protection
 - d. Mouth Pieces
- e. PPE Contamination

***NEW* EXPOSURE CONTROLS FOR BLOOD AND BODILY FLUID**

1. ADDITIONAL PREVENTION

- a. Immunization
- b. Post Exposure Evaluation
- c. Training

SUMMARY

Exposure to blood and bodily fluid is one of the risks we all face on any given day working with other people and it is important that we eliminate or reduce any risks of transmission of communicable diseases as reasonably low as possible.

The South Shore Regional School Board has developed the “Exposure Controls for Blood and Bodily Fluid” procedure that support this.

Take time to assess your work situations and the possibility of exposure.

Apply the control measures by reducing the risk with engineering controls, administrative controls, or personal protective equipment.