Action Card

Best practice – 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.

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

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

NO → Is it a spill of blood or body fluid as specified in Box1 (below)?

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

YES

YES

- Apply chlorine releasing granules directly to the spill[1]
- 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 towlels
- Follow manufacturer's instruction for contact time or leave for 3 minutes
- Discard the gross contamination into healthcare waste bag.

[1]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.

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- 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.

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- **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 hygene.**

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.