


Work Health Safety: Safe Work Practice: Personal & Medical

Body Fluid Spills Management

|  Risks | Risk Level | Risk Controls |
|--|--|---|
| Infection of people from clients blood, vomit, urine, faeces and other body fluids | Likelihood: B Consequence: 3 Rating = HIGH | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wear gloves <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clean spill immediately <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flush and if necessary seek treatment for those with a possible infection from spill |
| Infection of client with open wound | Likelihood: B Consequence: 3 Rating = HIGH | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clean body spills spill immediately <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flush wound and if necessary seek treatment for those with a possible infection from spill |
| Client/staff emotional distress due to fear of serious health problems or lack of confidence in staff response | Likelihood: C Consequence: 4 Rating = MODERATE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clients should consult with their Doctor to find out if their medication is likely to cause a body fluid spill and if any special precautions might be needed to clean up such a spill <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clean spill immediately <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provide prompt first aid <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Staff provide necessary reassurance to client <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coordinator provide necessary support to staff. |

Equipment required:.

| <i>Mercy Services equipment</i> | <i>Others equipment</i> |
|--|-------------------------|
| mobile phone, Worker to wear <u>footwear</u> that is fully enclosed, slip resistant sole, water repellent/resistant and provides adequate support. Personal Protective Equipment required: disposable gloves (apron, face mask, eye protection may be required in extreme situations) | |

| Activity | Worker behaviour | Client/other's behaviour |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Apply PPE | a. Worker to apply gloves and other PPE if needed | |
| 2. Attend to client's emotional and physical comfort | a. Ask client for information on what led to body fluid spill to assess environmental hazards and possible danger of spill b. Reassure client that they are not "at fault" for having a body fluid spill and that you will assist them c. Remove client from spill area if safe and appropriate to do so d. Apply first aid if client is bleeding e. Provide water to wash client's mouth if vomiting has occurred f. If on an outing assess and if necessary | Client to sit quietly and worker to try engaging client in conversation so that client does not fret or become distressed by body fluid spill |

| Activity | Worker behaviour | Client/other's behaviour |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| | enact arrangements to have client taken home or to medical treatment (inform client's carer if necessary) | |
| 3. Call an ambulance if required | a. An ambulance must be called if the body fluid spill is unusual (call 000 [or 112 on a mobile phone]). | |
| 4. Make area safe | a. Tell others not to enter the area b. Erect physical barriers if high traffic area and/or it will take a long time to clean spill c. Carefully remove/deal with any hazards that may have caused the spill (e.g. open windows if fumes caused vomiting, remove sharps if they caused wound) | |
| 5. Clean spill | a. Confine and contain the spill by using paper towels or disposable absorbent material (e.g., spill powder, towel) around edge of spill, then working inwards. b. If necessary use a dustpan or similar to scoop up excessive or semi solid spill c. Use paper/absorbent towel to soak up fluids d. Mop area (as per SWP – Mopping) e. Dispose of paper towel and/or spill powder in double plastic bags then seal. f. Place towels and clothing soaked with body substances in a bucket or leak proof bag and take to laundry for double washing in normal detergent, separate from other items | Client to tell worker if s/he feels like they might vomit or that their condition is worsening |
| 6. Follow-up | a. Document the incident and report it to your Coordinator immediately | |

As at 27/09/16 this Safe Work Practice is authorised for use in:

| <i>Service</i> | <i>Position</i> |
|---------------------------|--|
| Community Transport | Driver |
| Day Centre | Activity Officer and Coordinator |
| Home Care Packages | Community Care Assistant and Coordinator |
| Home Support Program/NDIS | Community Care Assistant and Coordinator |
| Residential Aged Care | Assistant in Nursing |
| Support Coordination | Case Manager and Coordinator |

Date for review of safe work practice: September 2019 (or if injury or changes require)

COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT

Body fluid spills Management

Employee _____

Assessor _____

Date _____

Desired Outcome:

Staff/volunteers can respond appropriately to a spill of vomit, blood, urine, faeces or other body fluid

Knowledge required:

| Performance Criteria | Competence demonstrated | Comment |
|--|-------------------------|---------|
| Apply PPE | | |
| a) Worker wears gloves and other PPE if needed | | |
| Attend to client's emotional and physical comfort | | |
| a) Asks client for information on what led to body fluid spill to assess environmental hazards and possible danger of spill | | |
| b) Reassures client that s/he is not "at fault" for having a body fluid spill and that you will assist her/him | | |
| c) Removes client from spill area if safe and appropriate to do so | | |
| d) Applies first aid if client is bleeding | | |
| e) Provides water to wash client's mouth if vomiting has occurred | | |
| f) If on an outing assesses, and if necessary enacts, arrangements to have client taken home or to medical treatment (informs client's carer if necessary) | | |
| Call an ambulance if required | | |
| a) An ambulance is called if the body fluid spill is unusual | | |
| Make area safe | | |
| a) Tells others not to enter the area | | |
| b) Erects physical barriers if high traffic area and/or it will take a long time to clean spill | | |
| c) Carefully removes/deals with any hazards that may have caused the spill (e.g. opens windows if | | |

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| fumes caused vomiting, removes sharps if they caused wound) | | |
| Clean spill | | |
| a) Confines and contains the spill by using paper towels or disposable absorbent material (e.g., spill powder, towel) around edge of spill | | |
| b) If necessary uses a dustpan or similar to scoop up excessive or semi-solid spill | | |
| c) Uses paper/absorbent towel to soak up fluids | | |
| d) Mops area (as per SWP – Mopping) | | |
| e) Disposes of paper towel and/or spill powder in double plastic bags and then seals them | | |
| f) Places towels and clothing soaked with body substances in a bucket or leak proof bag and takes to laundry for double washing in normal detergent separate from other items | | |
| Follow-up | | |
| a) Documents the incident and reports it to your Coordinator immediately | | |

Is the worker assessed as being competent? YES NO

Any required follow up action/training: _____

Signature of employee..... Date.....

Signature of assessor Date.....