

	Montana Mental Health Nursing Care Center Policy Manual	Policy Number	1507
		Original Date	12/23/1996
	Department: Exposure Control Plan	Revised Date	03/01/2016
	Cleaning of Potentially Contaminated Equipment and Work Area		

POLICY:

All employees shall adhere to Universal Precautions/Standard Precautions to guard against infection by blood borne pathogens when working with or around equipment or work areas and surfaces that may have been contaminated.

Cleaning Equipment and Work Surfaces

All equipment shall be cleaned thoroughly and decontaminated following manufacturer’s instructions immediately or as soon as feasible after contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials.

All equipment and work areas shall be cleaned and decontaminated at the end of the work shift if the surface may have been contaminated since the last cleaning.

If parts or areas of a piece of equipment are inaccessible to the user and any possibility of contamination exists, the equipment shall be labeled with an approved biohazard label annotated as to which parts of the equipment are contaminated. The unit supervisor shall immediately notify the Housekeeping Department to obtain assistance in decontaminating the equipment.

Because equipment designated as re-usable may be a source of environmental contamination unless properly cleaned, disinfected, or sterilized, the employees must adhere to the following:

PROCEDURE:

Routine cleaning of equipment, work areas and surfaces:

1. Employees cleaning equipment, work areas, or work surfaces shall use personal protective equipment that insures there is no contact of potentially contaminated material with skin or personal clothing.

Cleaning of Potentially Contaminated Equipment and Work Areas

2. Clean large equipment, stationary or portable, with a germicidal disposable wipe

Cleaning of Bins, Pails, Cans, and Receptacles:

1. All bins, pails, cans, and similar receptacles shall be emptied when needed, cleaned and decontaminated as necessary.

Broken Glassware:

1. Broken glassware which may be contaminated shall not be picked up directly with the hands. It shall be cleaned up using mechanical means and disposed of in puncture-resistant containers that are appropriately labeled or color coded.