

PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Note: We recognize that AIDS is not casually transmitted. Those regulations dealing with casual contact apply to the communicability of other infectious diseases.

I. General

A. Handwashing

Handwashing is the single most important technique for preventing the spread of disease. Liquid soap is preferable to bar soap. Hands should be washed thoroughly for 15 to 30 seconds with soap and warm running water, rinsed under running water, and thoroughly dried with paper towels:

1. before eating, drinking or feeding
2. before handling food, clean utensils or kitchen equipment
3. before and after using the toilet or diapering
4. after accidental contact with body secretions such as blood, urine, feces, mucus, saliva or drainage from wounds, or with soiled garments, equipment, diapers or menstrual pads.

B. Food and Utensils

Food and drinks should not be shared. Separate eating utensils, glasses and cups should be used.

II. Control of Science Laboratory Lessons

Before a class works with blood or blood products, the teacher must explain the potentially hazardous nature of blood, emphasizing the fact that through blood, various agents can be transmitted from one person to another. Before and after doing laboratory work, pupils always must wash hands with soap and water, dry hands, and cover any existing cut, wound, or open sore with a sterile dressing. The following techniques also shall be used when pupils are working with human blood:

1. Specific procedures and safety precautions shall be explained carefully before starting each laboratory exercise.
2. Wherever possible, blood typing experiments shall be conducted by teacher demonstrations rather than being performed by individual pupils.
3. Pupils always shall work with their own blood, or shall use prepackaged ABO/Rh blood cell kits

that have vials of blood previously tested for transmissible agents.

4. Pupils shall use individual sterile lancets for finger punctures, and lancets must not be reused.
5. Before the finger is punctured, it shall be wiped with a piece of cotton that has been immersed in alcohol.
6. If bleeding persists after the finger is punctured, the pupil shall apply a sterile bandage using moderate pressure.
7. Large beakers of a solution consisting of a district-provided, hospital standard disinfectant shall be placed throughout the room. Lancets and any other materials with blood on them must be discarded into the solution. Solution shall be made fresh each day.
8. At the end of the class, laboratory desks shall be wiped with alcohol or a district-provided, hospital standard disinfectant.

Techniques similar to the above shall be used when working with any other body fluids. Working procedures will be covered by the District's Exposure Control Plan (ECP).

III. Cal/OSHA (OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION) Regulations

Cal/OSHA has adopted regulations applicable to school district employees which are designed to prevent the possible spread of infection by bloodborne pathogens. These regulations, which contain procedures to protect against exposure to blood and other potentially infectious materials, housekeeping procedures, contaminated waste disposal procedures and post-exposure procedures, are incorporated by reference into this regulation to the extent they apply to the school setting. Copies of the Cal/OSHA regulations are available in the District office.

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DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

PLEASANTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

PLEASANTON, CALIFORNIA