

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 48 (SEA TO SKY)

REGULATION SERIES 400 - STAFF PERSONNEL

R 405 EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS
R 405.7 Blood Borne Pathogens and
 Other Communicable Diseases

GUIDELINES FOR PREVENTION OF INFECTION FROM BLOOD BORNE VIRUSES (i.e. HIV (AIDS), HEPATITIS B, AND HEPATITIS C)

The following information is provided to assist persons providing first aid in schools. While the chances of caring for a person with one of these infections are very low, it is recommended that these universal guidelines regarding handling blood or any body fluid contaminated with blood be followed for all persons.

Guidelines:

1. Contact with blood or body fluids should be avoided where possible and, if it is reasonable, the injured person should care for themselves under supervision; e.g., apply pressure to a bleeding wound.
2. When contact with blood or body fluids is necessary, gloves should be worn (latex or rubber gloves are adequate).
3. Disposable, single-use gloves should be used.
4. If the patient's blood or body fluids get on the hands or body of the first-aid attendants, it should be washed off with soap and water as quickly as possible. If it gets in the eye, it should be rinsed immediately under running water.
5. Dressings and materials used to cleanse or cover wounds should be disposed of in a plastic bag lined, covered receptacle. The entire plastic bag should be removed at the end of each day and the receptacle re-lined.
6. An effective disinfectant is normal household bleach diluted 1:10 in water or other cleaning solution as approved by the Public Health Nurse and left for 10 minutes on any blood spills on floors or furniture prior to cleaning up (hot water and soap used on areas where bleach would cause damage). Disposable paper towels should be used to clean up such spills and discarded as above. Gloves should be worn for clean-up.
7. A puncture-proof sharps container will be available at each school to discard contaminated objects that could puncture or cut skin.