

JUVENILE COURT HEALTH SERVICES - INFECTION CONTROL

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Subject: STANDARD PRECAUTIONS		Original Issue Date: 2/8/19	Policy # IC-02
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Departments Consulted: Infection Prevention and Control Committee	Approved By: (Signature on File) Medical Director (Signature on File) Infection Control Manager	Approved by: (Signature on File) Health Services Administrator	

STANDARD PRECAUTIONS were initiated to protect the health care worker from blood-borne pathogens and to prevent the transmission of infectious agents between the health care worker and juveniles. STANDARD PRECAUTIONS are the first step in infection control and must be practiced by all health care workers at all times and in all settings. Health care workers shall be trained and will use barrier devices provided for their safety to prevent contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials.

1. Hands and other skin surfaces must be thoroughly washed with soap and water for 20 seconds immediately following exposure to blood and other body fluids.
2. Hands may be cleansed with alcohol hand sanitizer as an alternative to washing hands with soap and water before and after each patient visit that involves touching the patient or their immediate environment.
3. Fluid-resistant gloves shall be worn when handling all blood and body fluids and while performing procedures where there is a potential for infectious or communicable exposure.
4. Gloves shall be removed and/or hands washed following direct care with each juvenile.
5. A fluid-resistant barrier gown or disposable plastic apron shall be worn to protect clothing whenever there is a likelihood of clothing becoming soiled or wet with blood or body fluids.
6. Protective eye wear, surgical mask, or full-face shield shall be worn whenever there is a likelihood of splashing body fluids into the eyes, nose, or mouth.
7. All invasive procedures involving surgical entry into tissues, cavities or organs shall require wearing of barrier gown, gloves, surgical mask and protective eye wear or face shield.
8. When appropriate, specimens shall be transported to the laboratory in a closed, zip top plastic bag.

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9. Extreme caution shall be taken to prevent percutaneous injuries from needles and other sharp instruments. Needles should not be re-capped, bent, or broken. All sharps and used needles must be discarded in an approved sharps disposal container, and the container should be placed in an appropriate area for pick up once it is $\frac{3}{4}$ full.
10. All body fluids to be discarded shall be flushed down a toilet or hopper.
11. All body fluid and blood spills shall be cleaned up with an EPA registered disinfectant solution or sodium hypochlorite 10% solution.
12. Soiled linen shall be placed in laundry bags and left in an appropriate area for pick up.
13. Reusable items shall be washed with a detergent solution and transported to a central sterilization location for disinfection and sterilization. Gloves shall be worn during all stages of handling.
14. All contaminated disposable items shall be discarded into the appropriate covered trash container.
15. All parenteral and mucous membrane exposures must be reported immediately to the employee's immediate Supervisor and Health Care Service site, which include:

LAC+USC Health Care Services Site 323-226-5235
LAC+USC Emergency Room 323-409-6707
16. Health care workers are not to eat in the patient care areas.