

Subject: Universal Safety Precautions	Date Approved: May 22, 2010
Approved by: Executive Director	Date Revised:
Specific to: All staff	Next Review Date: September 2018

PRINCIPLE:

The objectives of the North Huron Family Health Team are intended to:

- Protect staff from unprotected contact with infectious organisms,
- Protect clients from developing infections through cross contamination.

POLICY:

Universal precautions will be used consistently by all staff while providing care for all clients.

PROCEDURES:

- Hands should be washed before and after contact with each client (see hand washing procedure),
- Gloves must be used when coming in contact with:
 - Mucous membrane,
 - Moist body surfaces,
 - Non-intact skin.
- Gloves must be worn for handling any items soiled with blood or body fluids or while cleaning dirty instruments,
- Gloves must be discarded after each use,
- Face masks and eye protection should be worn if any splattering is likely to occur,
- Any surfaces that come in contact with blood or body fluids should be washed with soap and water immediately and wiped down with disinfectant,
- Any items that must be disposed of and are soiled with blood or body fluids will be discarded in bio-hazardous waste bins (see LWHA bio-hazardous waste procedure),
- All needle stick incidents, mucosal splashes, or contamination of non-intact skin with blood, body fluids or substances should be reported immediately to the Executive Director,
- Staff is to go immediately to Emergency Department for treatment, report to Executive Director upon return and complete Incident Report,

[..\..\FHT Forms\Staff & Admin Forms\Form - Incident InvestigationForm2010.pdf](#)
- All staff who are providing service to clients should be in good health and free from communicable diseases,
- Any staff that has exudative lesions or weeping dermatitis should seek medical attention and should avoid direct client care. If provider is involved in direct client care then he/she must wear gloves in all direct care and handling or equipment until the condition resolves.