



REPORT TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES

October 22, 2013

Jim McKenzie, Associate Director & Treasurer

SUBJECT: **Students with Blood Borne Pathogens – Policy Review**

PREPARED BY: Dr. Frank Leddy, Superintendent of Education

BACKGROUND:

In December 2000 the Board adopted *Policy 3.18 – Students Who Are HIV Positive*. The policy was very narrow in scope, addressing only one blood borne illness.

Sec. C Policy – Students with Blood Borne Pathogens expands *Policy 3.18* to include all blood borne infections. It has been developed in consultation with the Chatham-Kent Public Health Unit and reflects routine medical practices that are considered the standard for safety. It also takes into consideration the important role of the Medical Officer of Health when dealing with blood borne pathogens.

Under *Sec. C. Policy – Students with Blood Borne Pathogens*, and the attendant procedures, infected students are treated equitably and inclusively. The policy also respects our students' right to privacy, while protecting the safety and health of all.

With the adoption of *Sec. C Policy – Students with Blood Borne Pathogens*, the former policy, *Policy 3.18 – Students Who Are HIV Positive* becomes redundant, and should be rescinded.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the St. Clair Catholic District School Board receive the report: *Students with Blood Borne Pathogens – Policy Review*, for information.

That the St. Clair Catholic District School Board approve *Sec. C Policy – Students with Blood Borne Pathogens*, effective October 22, 2013.

That the St. Clair Catholic District School Board rescind *Policy 3.18 – Students Who Are HIV Positive*, effective October 22, 2013.

**ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
SECTION C: STUDENTS**

STUDENTS WITH BLOOD BORNE PATHOGENS	POLICY
EFFECTIVE: 2013 10 22	

POLICY STATEMENT:

The St. Clair Catholic District School Board acknowledges its responsibility to minimize potential exposure of individuals to blood borne pathogens, while also respecting the right to privacy for students regarding their medical condition. The departments of public health advise that blood borne pathogens are not transmitted by casual contact, as found in the normal school environment.

POLICY GOALS:

This policy will:

1. Give assiduous attention to the health and safety of all students by using routine practices.
2. Ensure that students with blood borne pathogens are treated with respect and dignity.
3. Ensure that the identity of a student with a blood borne pathogen shall be kept strictly confidential and shall not be disclosed by the Board or any Board employee unless permission is obtained by a signed authorization for release by a parent/guardian, student of legal age, court order, or in consultation with the Medical Officer of Health.
4. Permit a student to attend regular classes unless deemed a health risk in consultation with the Medical Officer of Health or the family physician treating the student.
5. Allow for decisions regarding the provision of alternative instruction to be made on an individual basis.

DEFINITIONS:

Blood Borne Pathogens:

Bodily fluids that carry blood borne infections/diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, or Hepatitis B, C, or D.

Bodily Fluids:

A term applied to blood, urine, vomit, sputum and drainage from any bodily orifice or wound. Feces, while not bodily fluids in themselves, are moistened by bodily fluids and are considered under this definition. Bodily fluids that carry blood born infections/diseases such as HIV/AIDS or Hepatitis B, C, or D include blood, semen, vaginal fluids and breast milk.

First Aid Procedures:

Refer to any procedures involving the treatment of an injured person in an emergency, before full medical care can be obtained.

Routine Practices:

Refer to those practices used with blood and certain bodily fluids. Blood borne infections require the use of routine practices such as hand hygiene and wearing gloves.

**ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
SECTION C: STUDENTS**

STUDENTS WITH BLOOD BORNE PATHOGENS	PROCEDURE
EFFECTIVE: 2013 10 22	

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

The St. Clair Catholic District School Board will be compassionate when dealing with students infected with a blood borne pathogen. The St. Clair Catholic District School Board recognizes its responsibility to protect the health and well-being of all students while maintaining the privacy and dignity of students infected with a blood borne pathogen.

1.0 Responsibilities

- 1.1 Principals and supervisors may obtain training, direction or consultation from a medical health care provider, as appropriate for a specific individual.
- 1.2 Principals and Supervisors are responsible for the review of appropriate procedures with staff on a regular basis. Principals and Supervisors shall ensure staff receive training as required.
- 1.3 The Principal, under the duties outlined in the *Education Act* and the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*, must report to the Medical Officer of Health the name of any student known to have blood borne pathogens.

2.0 Expectations

- 2.1 The Joint Health and Safety Committee will provide input into training and education programs for all staff in addressing blood borne pathogens.
- 2.2 Each school and facility has protective gloves and first aid supplies that are replenished as necessary.
- 2.3 Care must be taken to minimize contact with bodily fluids. It is recommended that all staff follow routine practice guidelines (Appendix A) which include hand hygiene and the use of gloves in the presence of bodily fluids. An individual's best protection against blood borne pathogens is to assume that the entire population is infected and follow proper procedures. By treating all individuals equally, the privacy of those individuals infected will be maintained.
- 2.4 All blood/bodily fluid spills will be cleaned and disinfected as outlined in the cleaning guidelines established by Facility Services.
- 2.5 It is recommended that all staff follow routine practices in the administration of first aid procedures.
- 2.6 Students are not required to disclose their health status to St. Clair Catholic District School Board personnel.

ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SECTION C: STUDENTS

- 2.7 The identity of a student with a blood borne pathogen shall be protected but may be disclosed after consultation with, and the consent of the parent/guardian or the student, if an adult, or at the direction of the Medical Officer of Health.
- 2.8 Students with a blood borne pathogen have the right to attend regular classes unless the risk to the student or other students, as determined by the Superintendent of Education, require alternative instruction. The Superintendent of Education in consultation with the Medical Officer of Health will make decisions regarding alternative forms of instruction on an individual basis.
- 2.9 Information about blood borne pathogens will be provided to all students, as required by the curriculum, in accordance with Ministry of Education guidelines.

3.0 Additional Information

- 3.1 The St. Clair Catholic District School Board is committed to the principles of equity and inclusive education, consistent with our Catholic teachings, which value and promote human rights and social justice in all Board policies, programs, guidelines, operations and practices.

4.0 Definitions:

Blood Borne Pathogens:

Bodily fluids that carry blood borne infections/diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, or Hepatitis B, C, or D.

Bodily Fluids:

A term applied to blood, urine, vomit, sputum and drainage from any bodily orifice or wound. Feces, while not bodily fluids in themselves, are moistened by bodily fluids and are considered under this definition. Bodily fluids that carry blood borne infections/diseases such as HIV/AIDS, or Hepatitis B, C, or D include blood, semen, vaginal fluids and breast milk.

First Aid Procedures:

Refer to any procedures involving the treatment of an injured person in an emergency, before full medical care can be obtained.

Routine Practices:





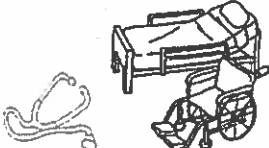



Refer to those practices used with blood and certain bodily fluids. Blood borne infections require the use of routine practices such as hand hygiene and wearing gloves.

Fact Sheet
Feuille de renseignements



PIDAC Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee
CCPMI Comité consultatif provincial des maladies infectieuses

Routine Practices Fact Sheet for Health Care Settings

ROUTINE PRACTICES to be used with ALL PATIENTS	
	<p>Hand Hygiene</p> <p>Hand hygiene is performed using alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Before and after each client/patient/resident contact ✓ Before performing invasive procedures ✓ Before preparing, handling, serving or eating food ✓ After care involving body fluids and before moving to another activity ✓ Before putting on and after taking off gloves and PPE — ✓ After personal body functions (e.g. blowing one's nose) ✓ Whenever hands come into contact with secretions, excretions, blood and body fluids ✓ After contact with items in the client/patient/resident's environment
	<p>Mask & Eye Protection or Face Shield</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Protect eyes, nose and mouth during procedures and care activities likely to generate splashes or sprays of blood, body fluids, secretions or excretions ✓ Wear within 1 meter of a coughing client/patient/resident
	<p>Gown</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Wear a long-sleeved gown if contamination of uniform or clothing is anticipated
	<p>Gloves</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Wear gloves when there is a risk of hand contact with blood, body fluids, secretions, excretions, non-intact skin, mucous membranes or contaminated surfaces or objects ✓ Wearing gloves is NOT a substitute for hand hygiene ✓ Perform hand hygiene after removing gloves
	<p>Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ All equipment that is being used by more than one client/patient/resident must be cleaned between clients/patients/residents ✓ All touched surfaces in the client/patient/resident's room must be cleaned daily
	<p>Linen & Waste</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Handle soiled linen and waste carefully to prevent personal contamination and transfer to other clients/patients/residents
	<p>Sharps Injury Prevention</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ NEVER RECAP USED NEEDLES ✓ Place sharps in sharps containers ✓ Prevent injuries from needles, scalpels and other sharp devices
	<p>Patient Placement/Accommodation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Use a single room for a client/patient/resident who contaminates the environment ✓ Perform hand hygiene after leaving the room

Images developed by: Kevin Rostant