Standard Operating Procedure for

Custodial Infectious Spill Cleanup
# DOCUMENT REVISION LOG

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rev. No.</th>
<th>Effective Date</th>
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<th>Pages Replaced</th>
<th>Completed by:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>6/16/2023</td>
<td>Initial implementation of SOP</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>ZP, LB, TD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>1/5/2024</td>
<td>Updated title for Dennis-Ray Armijo on signature page.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>ZP</td>
</tr>
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Infectious Spill Clean-up SOP

Rev 0.1 January 5, 2024   iv
UNM’S COMMITMENT TO SAFETY

Safety is a core value of the University of New Mexico. UNM is committed to creating and fostering a culture of safety within the community. To learn more visit https://ehs.unm.edu/culture-of-safety.html.

ACRONYMS & DEFINITIONS

Infectious material: Blood, feces, urine, vomit, saliva, semen, vaginal secretions, and any other fluids that originate from a human body. All body fluids can potentially carry infectious agents.

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1. **Scope & Purpose**

The purpose of this document is to outline proper procedures for infectious spill clean-up, which must be followed by all personnel involved in the clean-up.

All stakeholders have the right to stop work if an unsafe condition arises within the work environment.

2. **Roles & Responsibilities**

2.1. **Supervisors**
- Implement and enforce this program.
- Instruct their employees to the content of this program.
- Ensure that formal training is provided as required by this program.

2.2. **Environmental Health & Safety**
- Implement and maintain this program.
- Provide Hazard Awareness and PPE training.

2.3. **Employees**
- Adhere to the requirements and restrictions set forth by this program.
- All stakeholders have the right to stop work if an unsafe condition arises within the work environment.

3. **Procedure**

In the event of an infectious spill, responsibility for prompt/proper clean-up falls under the staff member(s) assigned to the affected area. It is the department's responsibility to have spill control, appropriate chemicals, training, and personal protective equipment appropriate for the clean-up.

3.1. **General Spill Response (Indoors)**
- **Safety – use appropriate PPE:**
  - Eye protection
  - Gloves (Nitrile/other)
  - Fluid resistant surgical mask, if/when necessary
  - Long sleeve shirt
  - Shoe covers, gowns, if/when necessary
  - Wet floor sign
• **Tools – have the following tools for clean-up**
  - Mop and Bucket
  - Absorbent white towel
  - Appropriate disinfectant
  - Biohazard Waste (Blood) waste container
  - Dustpan and spatula
  - Absorbent powder

• **Clean-up**
  - **Larger Spills** -
    - Gently sprinkle enough powder to contain and absorb all fluids.
    - Use a spatula and dustpan to pick up contaminated powder and discard it in the appropriate waste container.
    - Disinfect the area with a mop and germicidal detergent.
    - Empty mop water into the sink; use detergent to disinfect all equipment and sink.
    - NOTE: For unique or specialty scenarios (i.e. fecal matter has been intentionally smeared or spread on surfaces) contact your supervisor to determine if additional cleanup measures or specialty processes will be required.
  - **Smaller Spills** -
    - Spray the area with detergent from the spray bottle.
    - Wipe the area with disposable cleaning cloths.
    - Collect the wiper and soil and discard them in the appropriate waste container.
    - Spray again and allow the air to dry.

3.2. **Outdoor Spill Response**

- Consult with FM Grounds and your supervisor to coordinate cleanup efforts. Additional chemicals may be required to remove bodily fluids from asphalt.

3.3. **Major Sewage Backups**

- Immediately contact your supervisor and coordinate with FM, EHS, and Risk Services for cleanup activities.

4. **Basic Hygiene and Accidental Exposures**

- After removing protective equipment, immediately wash your hands with soap and warm water.
- Disinfect all reusable equipment.
• If there is accidental skin contamination, wash the contaminated area with copious amounts of soap/water.
• If there is accidental eye and/or mucous membrane contamination, flush with copious amounts of water.
• Report all accidental exposures to your supervisor, submit a accident/incident report, and contact Employee Occupational Health Services (EOHS) for further instruction.

5. DISPOSAL PROCEDURES

Most body fluids and related clean-up materials can be disposed of in garbage bags and collected as normal trash.

For any cleanup that involves blood or needles (syringes), waste should be disposed of as biohazardous at the building’s nearest biohazardous drop off point. If the building does not have a biohazardous waste drop off point, the custodial main office drop off location should be utilized.
"Infectious Spill Clean-up SOP R 0.1" History

- Document created by Zachary Peterson (zpeterson@unm.edu)
  2024-01-10 - 6:21:08 PM GMT - IP address: 174.28.177.127

- Document emailed to Victor Tovar (vtovar@unm.edu) for signature
  2024-01-10 - 6:22:29 PM GMT

- Document emailed to mckmatt@unm.edu for signature
  2024-01-10 - 6:22:29 PM GMT

- Document emailed to James Todd (jtodd@unm.edu) for signature
  2024-01-10 - 6:22:30 PM GMT

- Document emailed to dgoines@unm.edu for signature
  2024-01-10 - 6:22:30 PM GMT

- Document emailed to Dennis-Ray Armijo (drayarmijo@unm.edu) for signature
  2024-01-10 - 6:22:30 PM GMT

- Document emailed to Casey B Hall (cbhall4@unm.edu) for signature
  2024-01-10 - 6:22:30 PM GMT

- Email viewed by James Todd (jtodd@unm.edu)
  2024-01-10 - 6:34:06 PM GMT - IP address: 129.24.32.163

- Document e-signed by James Todd (jtodd@unm.edu)
  Signature Date: 2024-01-10 - 6:34:22 PM GMT - Time Source: server - IP address: 129.24.32.163

- Email viewed by Victor Tovar (vtovar@unm.edu)
  2024-01-10 - 7:36:36 PM GMT - IP address: 129.24.123.215

- Email viewed by Casey B Hall (cbhall4@unm.edu)
  2024-01-10 - 8:42:41 PM GMT - IP address: 129.24.33.94