

Hope College

Infection Control Procedures

It shall be the practice of all individuals involved in a direct service to the sports medicine needs of Hope College student-athletes or other students using the College's athletic facilities to comply in full at all times with the College's Blood borne Pathogens Infection Control Policy. For the purpose of this policy, the following persons are considered to be "Category A" personnel under OSHA rules (having jobs that routinely involve exposure to blood, body fluids, and tissues):

- Certified athletic trainers
- Athletic training students
- Team physicians
- Lifeguards
- Head equipment manager

The following persons are considered to be "Category B" personnel under the OSHA rules (jobs with tasks that do not routinely involve exposure to blood, body fluids, or tissues):

- Coaches
- Equipment room employees
- Intramural supervisors
- Intramural officials

All personnel shall comply with the following rules:

1. Hands shall be washed with soap and water as soon as possible following contact with blood, body fluids, or mucous membranes. Sinks with soap and paper towels are available in the DeVos Fieldhouse, Dow Center, and Lugers Fieldhouse athletic training rooms as well as in the restrooms of these buildings. Personnel servicing outdoor practices or games may use drinking fountains or water coolers for hand washing as long as no direct contact with blood, body fluids, or mucous membranes should control the flow of water from the spout while exposed person washes. If the spout is accidentally touched during the hand washing procedure, the entire cooler must be emptied and cleaned with a bleach solution before being refilled and used again.
2. All sharps shall be disposed of in the red plastic containers located on the counters of each athletic training room.
3. Eating, drinking, smoking, application of lip balm, and handling contact lenses shall be prohibited in the following areas:
 - Taping and treatment areas of each athletic training room
 - Laundry area of equipment rooms

4. All equipment contaminated with blood or other bodily fluids shall be cleaned with a 1:10 bleach solution or other College approved cleaner. If the equipment cannot be cleaned adequately, a red biohazard label shall be affixed and the head AT shall be notified immediately.
5. All personnel shall wear disposable latex gloves when working with students who are bleeding or have broken skin. In addition, latex gloves shall be used when the mucous membrane of a student is being examined or treated. Gloves are available on the counters of the athletic training rooms, in each equipment room, in all medical kits, and in the first-aid kit in the Kresge Natatorium.

All personnel shall use a pocket mask or bag valve mask when performing rescue breathing or basic life support. Pocket masks are available in every medical kit and in the first-aid kit in the Kresge Natatorium. Bag valve masks are available in the splint kits in the athletic training rooms.

All personnel shall wear eye protectors, mouth shields, and lab coats when treating bleeding students in the DeVos Fieldhouse, Dow Center, and Lugers Fieldhouse. Personnel involved in the aspiration of serous fluid or blood-filled blisters shall also use these protective devices. Eye protectors, mouth shields, and lab coats are available in the athletic training rooms.

ATs and team physicians shall not be required to wear eye protectors, mouth shields, or lab coats when treating students on the practice or playing fields. However, if personal clothing comes into contact with blood or other body fluids on the practice or playing fields it must be removed as soon as possible and replaced. Furthermore, the contaminated clothing must be treated like any other contaminated laundry. Two sets of replacement clothing shall be stored in each of the athletic training rooms.

6. All athletic training room tables shall be cleaned at the end of each day with a 1:10 bleach solution or other College approved cleaner. If tables become contaminated with blood or other body fluids prior to the end of the day, they must be cleaned immediately. The table at the practice field shall be cleaned after each practice.
7. All medical waste (liquid or semi-liquid blood or other potentially infectious materials, dried blood, or materials soaked with these materials such as gauze pads and other bandages) shall be disposed of in the special medical waste container found in the following locations:
 - The taping area of each athletic training room
 - The end of home and visiting team benches
 - Visiting team locker rooms
 - The ATs station at the practice field

AT students shall be responsible for distributing medical waste containers to visiting team locker rooms and benches prior to contests and collecting them afterward. Medical waste containers shall be returned to the nearest athletic training room for disposal by appropriate personnel the following day.

8. Laundry, which has been contaminated by being soaked with blood or other body fluids, shall be placed into red biohazard bags and delivered to the head equipment manager at the closest available equipment room. Such laundry shall include but not be limited to the following:
 - Towels
 - Sheets
 - Cravats
 - Lab coats
 - Personal clothing
 - Uniforms

Under no circumstances will contaminated laundry be removed from the DeVos Fieldhouse, Dow Center, or Lugers Fieldhouse before being washed by the head equipment manager. The head equipment manager is the only employee authorized to launder contaminated materials. If laundry becomes contaminated during an away contest, the student athletic trainer shall use the red biohazard bag found in the medical kit to store the laundry prior to transporting it back to campus. All personnel shall wear gloves when handling contaminated laundry.

9. All personnel exposed to blood or other body fluids shall report the exposure to the head athletic trainer / or Health Clinic personnel within 12 hours for referral to appropriate medical personnel for follow-up. If the head athletic trainer cannot be contacted, the exposed employee should report to the health clinic.

Student Name

Date