

Best Practice: management of blood and body fluid spillages

Infection prevention and control Blood and/or body fluid spillage team/Health protection team Name: Wear appropriate personal protective equipment Designation: (PPE) eg non-sterile disposable gloves/aprons Contact number: Is the spillage on soft YES furnishings eg carpets? Is it a spill of Spill contains ONLY urine/faeces/vomit/sputum: blood or body do not use a chlorine releasing agent directly on a urine spill fluid as specified soak up spillage/gross contamination using disposable paper towels in **Box 1**? if a urine spillage a gelling agent can be used YES apply chlorine releasing granules directly decontaminate area with a solution of 1,000 parts per • if granules not available place disposable million available chlorine (ppm over spillage to absorb and contain it apply av cl) solution or use a of 10,000 parts per million available chloring combined detergent/chlorine (ppm av cl) solution to the towels releasing solution with a follow manufacturers' instructions on contact time or concentration of 1,000 ppm av cl leave for 3 minutes follow manufacturers' instructions • discard the gross contamination into a healthcare contact time waste bag ¹ all NHS Scotland settings must use granules, or equivalent product eg spill kits wash area with disposable paper towels and a solution of general purpose d warm water dry area or allow to air dry discard paper towels and disposable PPE into a healthcare waste bag perform hand hygiene

Box 1

- cerebrospinal fluid
- peritoneal fluid
- pleural fluid
- synovial fluid
- amniotic fluid
- semen
- vaginal secretions
- breast milk
- any other body fluid with visible blood (excluding urine)

Discuss with IPCT and consider:

- if furnishing is heavily contaminated you may have to discard it
- if the furnishing can withstand a chlorine releasing solution then follow appropriate procedure for the type of spill
- if it is safe to clean with detergent alone then follow appropriate procedure
- if it is not safe to clean with detergent then the item should be discarded

From: COVID-19. Guidance for infection prevention and control in healthcare settings