

Cleaning a Blood or Body Fluid Spill

Preventing the spread of infections

1. Restrict area and assemble supplies

Gather supplies needed. Your spill kit should include: adequate supplies of disposable gloves, paper towels, cleaning and disinfecting products, 70-90% alcohol-based hand sanitizer, garbage bags, and other personal protective equipment (PPE) such as a mask, eye goggles, gown, etc.



2. Put on gloves and other personal protective equipment (PPE)

Use hand sanitizer and put on disposable gloves and other PPE if there is a possibility of splashing.



3. Clean the surfaces

Wipe up the spill using disposable towels to remove all visible soil, checking the surrounding area for splatters or splashes. Thoroughly scrub soiled surfaces with cleaning solution and warm water. Rinse surfaces with clean water to remove cleaning solution. Discard all waste in a plastic-lined receptacle.



4. Disinfect the surfaces

Use a Health Canada approved disinfectant which has a drug identification number (DIN) and manufacturer's instructions on the labelling. Follow these instructions to disinfect the entire soiled area and allow it to stand for the required contact time. Most disinfectant solutions must remain wet on the surface for at least a 10 minute contact time to be effective.



5. Remove PPE

Remove and discard gloves, then use hand sanitizer. Remove and discard all other PPE, then use hand sanitizer again.



6. Remove waste and perform hand hygiene

Double-bag, seal and remove waste from the area and perform hand hygiene. Hands must be washed with soap and running water if visibly soiled or 70-90% alcohol-based hand sanitizer may be used only if hands are not visibly soiled.



Durham Health Connection Line
905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729
Dial 311 (within regional limits)
durham.ca/health

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.

