

Assembling a Body Fluid Cleanup Kit

Why a Body Fluid Cleanup Kit?

All body fluids, including vomit, stool, and blood, should be treated as infectious material. Germs, like Norovirus, that are spread through body fluids cannot be killed effectively using common foodservice detergents and sanitizers. If a worker or customer has vomited or contaminated a surface with body fluid, use of special procedures and a special disinfectant is required. It is also important to protect yourself from illness. A Body Fluid Cleanup Kit must contain the correct supplies to protect you and to thoroughly disinfect the area. Keep the kit ready for immediate use.

What is included in a Body Fluid Cleanup Kit?

1. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

A Body Fluid Cleanup Kit contains PPE to safeguard the individual responding to an incident. These items protect clothes and shoes from contamination. The equipment also protects the face from splashing and airborne particles, and hands from direct contact with body waste. Each kit should contain:

- Twelve (12) pairs of disposable, nonabsorbent, medical grade gloves
- One (1) facemask with face shield or goggles
- One (1) pair of shoe covers
- One (1) disposable gown



2. Cleaning Supplies

A Body Fluid Cleanup Kit contains supplies to safely and thoroughly remove and dispose of the waste. Cleaning supplies include:

- Multiple packages of disposable paper towels
- Bucket and chemical spray bottle
- A designated mop head for body fluid cleanup or disposable mop heads (2)
- Plastic garbage bags and twist-ties
- Disposable scoop, small shovel, or dustpan
- Sand, cat litter, or liquid spill absorbent material

3. Disinfectant

Common foodservice detergents and sanitizers are not effective in killing Norovirus, which can be spread through body fluids. A special disinfectant is necessary. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) keeps a list of registered disinfectants on its website.

- EPA-approved disinfectants appropriate for Norovirus: www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-g-epa-registered-hospital-disinfectants-effective-against-norovirus
- EPA-approved disinfectants appropriate for blood borne pathogens: www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-d-epas-registered-antimicrobial-products-effective-against-human-hiv-1

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Chlorine bleach (8.25% concentration) can also be used when prepared to a concentration of 5000 parts per million. Mix bleach and water together using following measurements.

- 1 cup bleach to 1 gallon of water or
- 5 cups bleach to 5 gallons of water

This is a very strong bleach solution. Use gloves and safety eye goggles to mix the bleach solution. The solution should be made fresh before each use because the solution becomes less concentrated over time. Use only in a well ventilated area.

4. Standard Operating Procedures

The kit should contain written procedures for the safe use of the Body Fluid Cleanup Kit.

Place all items into a waterproof container. Seal the lid and label with date. The EPA-registered disinfectant or chlorine bleach should be stored with an appropriate container (bucket or spray bottle) for chemical mixing. Store these items in an appropriate area. Keep the kit ready for immediate use.

How can I protect myself from illness?

All body fluids, including vomit, stool, and blood, should be treated as infectious material. The Body Fluid Cleanup Kit contains the correct supplies to protect you and to thoroughly disinfect an area after an incident. When cleaning up body fluids, you can protect yourself by wearing the personal protective equipment and following the directions in the standard operating procedures.

This fact sheet is part of a series of three fact sheets on Norovirus control and prevention.

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