

WEBER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE		POLICY AND PROCEDURES	
SUBJECT: Infectious Disease Exposure Control		CHAPTER/SECTION NO.: 16.28, 16.29,16.30	
EFFECTIVE DATE: 10/7/03		REVIEW DATE:	
AMENDS/SUPERSEDES:		APPROVED: <u>**See Master File</u> Sheriff	
STANDARD NUMBER: N/A			

16.28 **Definition**

- 16.28.1 Proper Disposal - Latex gloves which are contaminated with blood or other bodily fluids, whether human or animal, shall be placed into a plastic baggie carried by the Deputy or given to fire personnel at the scene of an incident. If a Deputy has placed latex gloves into a plastic baggie and has returned to the Sheriff's Office Building, he/she will place the baggie into the bio-hazard trash container which is located in the Patrol Section offices as soon as possible.
- A. If a Deputy has other contaminated items which are not considered evidence, he/she shall ask the fire or medical personnel for proper procedures for their disposal.
- B. Under no conditions should contaminated items be thrown into a regular trash receptacle.
- 16.28.2 Significant Exposure - Contact of an employee's broken skin or mucous membrane (mouth or eyes) with a individual's blood or body fluids other than tears or perspiration; a needle stick, scalpel, or instrument wound that occurred in the process of interacting with an individual, or exposure to blood or other body fluids other than tear or perspiration or by any other method as defined by the Utah State Health Department.

16.29 Purpose

- 16.29.1 To help minimize the risk of communication of infectious disease to any employee of this agency or any other person.

16.30 Policy

- 16.30.1 Employees who respond to situations involving a likelihood of any exposure to infectious disease through blood or other body fluids will, as nearly as possible, follow this guideline:
- A. Use new rubber or latex gloves when handling items which have been contaminated by blood or body fluids if there is a likelihood of contact.
 - B. Wear eye protection if there is the possibility of splashing or spurting blood or body fluids.
 - C. Build a "self-help barrier" by covering all open wounds or sores and cover any bandage or dressing that may become, or is already wet or soiled with body fluids.
 - D. Thoroughly wash hands or other exposed areas after contact with blood or body fluids with germicidal cleansing agent.
 - E. Promptly clean up blood or body fluid spills with 1:9 bleach solution or similar commercial product.
- 16.30.2 CPR: If possible, use an airbag, isolation airway, or mask.
- 16.30.3 Human Bites
- A. Encourage the wound to bleed by applying pressure and "milking" the wound.
 - B. Wash the area thoroughly with soap and water.
 - C. Secure prompt medical attention.
- 16.30.4 Searches and Evidence Handling

- A. Use extreme caution when looking for or handling items which may have come in contact with blood or body fluids. Also care should be used when searching suspects or their possessions as they may have sharp, contaminated objects in their possession.
- B. Use new, rubber or latex gloves when handling items which have been contaminated by blood or body fluids. Contaminated gloves should be properly disposed of after use.
- C. When handling sharp items, such as broken glass, which has come in contact with blood or body fluids, the employee should wear leather gloves over the latex gloves. The gloves should be properly disposed of after use.
- D. Place needles, syringes, or other sharp objects in puncture proof evidence containers and clearly label the contents.
- E. **Any object** which has been contaminated with blood or body fluid should be air dried before packaging.
- F. When scraping dried blood or body fluids, the employee should wear a filter covering nose and mouth and appropriate eye protection. Appropriate eye protection should also be worn if there is the potential of splashing body fluids.

16.30.5 Medical Attention

- A. In the case of any blood or body fluid exposure, the employee will immediately seek appropriate medical attention and report the incident to his/her supervisor.
- B. An agent designated by the supervisor will arrange for worker's compensation covered inoculations.
- C. If the source of blood or body fluid, or other exposure has infectious disease or there is evidence of such infection, the

designated agent will arrange for appropriate clinical and serological evaluation through the health department, with the consent of the employee.

- D. When an employee reports a **significant exposure**, the medical service provider that received the employee will be contacted by the designated agent to request an HIV seropositivity test if he/she consents to the test.
- E. The employee will complete the required state exposure report at the medical service provider site.
- F. After **significant exposure**, the employee will be evaluated clinically and serologically at a medical assessment service site for evidence of HIV infection as soon as possible after exposure.
- G. If the employee is seronegative, he/she will be retested at 3 (three) and 6 (six) months past exposure to determine if transmission has occurred. During this follow-up period, especially the first 6 (six) to 12 (twelve) weeks when most infected persons are expected to seroconvert, the exposed employee will have counseling available by the Weber County Board of Health concerning the risk of infection and following U.S. Public Health Service recommendations for preventing the transmission of AIDS.
- H. An HIV seropositivity test will be conducted for presence of Hepatitis B exposure and an H-B16 inoculation administered after the exposed employee's blood has been drawn during his/her first visit after the exposure.
- I. These assessments will be arranged by the designated agent in conjunction with the Weber County Health Department.

16.30.6 Office Documentation

- A. Employees will document, in the first report, any claim by a victim, suspect, arrested persons, or other person involved in an incident, that they or another party involved have an infectious disease.
 - B. Potential exposure to infectious disease will also be documented by completing a *Worker's First Report of Injury State Compensation* form.
- 16.30.7 Confidentiality: Employees of the Office will treat information about the identity of an infectious disease victim or carrier as confidential, consistent with UCA 26-6a-6.
- 16.30.8 Statutory Testing Provisions
- A. Pursuant to UCA 26-6a, an employee of the Weber County Sheriffs Office will be named as the "Designated Agent" of the office.
 - 1. The "Designated Agent" for the Weber County Sheriffs Office will be the employee's Bureau commander.
 - 2. Upon notification of a **significant exposure** to an infectious disease to an employee, the hospital, health care facility, or other facility receiving the employee will be notified by the designated agent, or whoever he/she assigns, to request a blood test of that employee.
 - 3. The test results, if the employee consents or law otherwise provides, will be furnished to a designated agent, who will furnish the information to the employee. In the case of AIDS testing, results will be reported directly to the employee by the State Department of Health.
- 16.30.9 Worker's Compensation: Consistent with provisions of UCA 26-6a-10 and 26-6a-11, employees may be covered by additional worker's compensation benefits including a

presumption that an infectious disease was contracted in the course of duty. Any employee employed as an EMS or First Responder, hired before July 1, 1988, is presumed to be free of infectious diseases. Any employee hired after that date must receive a base-line serology testing to be covered by worker's compensation benefits for job-related infection.

- 16.30.10 Base-Line Testing: All new deputies will be provided base-line screening during their preliminary orientation.