



4.50.022-AD Guidelines For Students With Bloodborne Pathogens

(Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) and Hepatitis C Virus (HCV)). HIV, HBV and HCV are bloodborne viruses that cause serious illnesses and are spread from one person to another primarily through blood, fluids that contain blood, semen or vaginal fluids. The risk of spread of these diseases in the school setting is extremely low. The viruses are transmitted only when a body fluid from an infected person is introduced through broken skin, into the mucus membranes or through puncture wounds. Risk for school employees is limited to persons exposed to infected students who exhibit aggressive behaviors such as biting, scratching or spitting and to persons who provide first aid to students or staff who provide personal care or health procedures which may involve contact with blood or other potentially infectious material. Recommendations by the Center for Disease Control emphasize the strict adherence to standard precautions to reduce the risk of communicable diseases, including bloodborne pathogens. Standard precautions require that all body fluids and substances of all persons must be considered potentially infectious for various diseases. Any staff assigned to assist with daily care or provide interventions that may have the potential for body fluid exposure or who may otherwise incur occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials as determined by the district must be current in bloodborne pathogen training as outlined by the Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division (OR-OSHA).

(1) **Confidentiality.**

- (a) The district's first responsibility is to protect the health and safety of its students and employees. A second responsibility is to recognize the rights of each individual child to a quality education.
- (b) These regulations shall be pursued so as to maintain the dignity and protect the privacy of the infected person. Confidentiality shall be a primary consideration.
- (c) Results of an HIV antibody test and the identity of a person receiving the test are confidential and may not be released without specific written consent from the student(s) or parent(s)/guardian(s). No person in Oregon may be tested for HIV without his or her informed consent, or in the case of a child, the consent of the child's parent(s) or legal guardian(s).

(2) **Special Categories.**

- (a) Special categories of children with HIV infection are reported to the local health department by their health care providers. These include: (1) all children less than six years of age; (2) children under 21 years of age whose providers have reasonable grounds to believe that they present special risks to other children or to adults in an educational setting (e.g., an ongoing history of biting others, scratching, spitting and those who have uncoverable, oozing lesions (a more restrictive educational environment may be advisable to minimize exposure of other children to blood or body fluids)); and (3) all children diagnosed with AIDS.
- (b) Individuals diagnosed with HIV infections, AIDS and HBV carriers are covered under the Americans with Disabilities Act, and so must receive appropriate accommodations.

(3) **Students with a Confirmed/Suspected Diagnosis.** If the Building Administrator has information that leads him/her to suspect that a student may be infected with HIV, HBV or HCV, the following steps shall be taken:

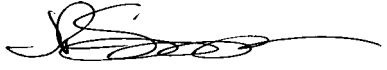
- (a) Maintain confidentiality. If the parent/guardian or student has noted the information on the Registration Card, encourage the parent/guardian or student to complete one without the confidential information noted;
- (b) Immediately report the information to the Director of Student Achievement;
- (c) The Director of Student Achievement or Building Administrator will contact the Multnomah Education Service District (MESD) Nurse Consultant. It is the responsibility of the MESD Nurse Consultant to contact the Multnomah County Health Department officer to establish the appropriate case specific steps be followed. Information will be shared on a need-to-know basis with the permission of the parent and at the direction of the Multnomah County health officer.

(4) **Temporary Exclusion.**

- (a) If a student identified as being infected with HIV, HBV or HCV is, because of physical, mental, emotional disability or immaturity, unable to control personal behavior to avoid the spread of disease, he/she shall be temporarily excluded from school pending the development of the appropriate case specific plan.
- (b) If a student identified as being infected with HIV, HBV or HCV is in an educational setting where there are persons who because of physical, mental or emotional immaturity cannot control their conduct, the student shall be temporarily excluded pending the development of the plan.
- (c) Such exclusion should last no longer than five working days.

Policy Implemented: 4.50.020-P

History: Adpt. 4/86; Amd. 10/87; Amd. 1/88; Amd. 9/01/02

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| _____ Superintendent | _____ Date |