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POLICY:

- The Agency and/or pharmacy provider shall ensure personal protective equipment is provided to all staff who need to protect themselves against exposure, at no cost to the staff. The personal protective equipment (PPE) provided by the Agency includes, but is not limited to:
 - Gloves (latex or vinyl)
 - Face shields / masks
 - Goggles
 - Gowns
- The Agency will provide training for each staff member who is required to use PPE in the workplace.
- Hypoallergenic gloves and similar alternatives are available to staff who are allergic to the gloves normally used.
- The Agency will comply with the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSHA), which requires employers to ensure the safety of all staff in the work environment.
- Each staff member shall be trained to know at least the following:
 - When PPE is necessary
 - What PPE is necessary
 - How to properly don, doff, adjust, and wear PPE
 - Limitations of the PPE
 - Proper care, maintenance, useful life, and disposal of the PPE

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PROCEDURE:

- The appropriate personal protective equipment will be worn when:
 - The cleaning procedure requires the use of personal protective equipment
 - Whenever there is a danger of contamination from blood, body fluids (including secretions and excretions except sweat), or other potentially infectious materials
 - Using chemicals that are dangerous or harmful
 - Indicated in isolation guidelines
 - Any time it may be necessary to safely complete a job or cleaning task
- All personal protective equipment is removed prior to leaving a work area.
- Replace disposable gloves if they have been torn, punctured or otherwise lose their ability to function as a barrier.
- Masks and face shields are used whenever splashes or sprays may generate droplets of infectious materials.

Training:

- PPE training is provided during orientation for new staff and through in services, as needed.
- Applicable staff members shall demonstrate an understanding of and ability to use PPE properly, before being allowed to perform work requiring the use of PPE.

PPE Requirements:

- Provide adequate protection against the hazards for which they are designed
- Be of safe design and construction for the work to be performed
- Be reasonably comfortable when worn under the designated conditions
- Fit snugly and not unduly interfere with the movements of the wearer

Policies & Procedures



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- Be durable
- Be capable of being disinfected
- Be easily cleanable
- Be distinctly marked to facilitate identification only of the manufacturer

Retraining:

- Retraining shall be performed in the following circumstances:
 - Any affected staff member who has already been trained but does not have the understanding and skill required.
 - Changes in the workplace render previous training obsolete
 - Changes in the types of PPE to be used render previous training obsolete
 - Inadequacies in an affected staff member's knowledge or use of assigned PPE indicate that the staff member has not retained the requisite understanding or skill.