

Universal Precautions for HIV and Infection Control

UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS FOR HIV

Universal Precautions refer to the usual and ordinary steps Forge Health takes to reduce the risk of infection with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. These measures are intended to prevent the transmission of HIV. The prevention of the transmission of HIV is based on the avoidance of skin and mucous membrane contact with blood and body fluids.

Ways of protecting yourself from HIV:

- Use barrier protection to prevent skin and mucous membrane contact with blood and other body fluids.
- Protect yourself from sharp injuries.
- Wear gloves when in contact with body fluids if possible.
- Wear mask and eye protection when splash injuries are possible.
- Contact trained individuals to clean up blood spills.

UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS FOR INFECTION CONTROL

Universal Precautions refer to the usual and ordinary steps you need to take to reduce the risk of infectious diseases, such as HIV or Hepatitis C.

The prevention of transmission of infectious diseases is based on the avoidance of skin and mucous membrane contact with blood and other body fluids.

Avoid Unnecessary Risks:

- If a fellow patient or client needs assistance, please call a staff member immediately.
- When avoidable, don't expose yourself to other person's blood or body fluids.
- Never share needles, razors, or any other personal sharp objects.
- Always contact trained individuals to clean up blood or other body fluid spills.

Ways of protecting yourself from infectious diseases:

- Use barrier protection to prevent skin and mucous membrane contact with blood and other body fluids.
- Wear face protection if blood or body fluid droplets may be generated during a procedure.

- Wear protective clothing if blood or body fluids may be splashed during a procedure.
- Wash hands and skin immediately and thoroughly if contaminated with blood or body fluids.
- Wash hands immediately after gloves are removed.
- Use care when handling sharp instruments and needles. Place used sharps in labeled, puncture resistant containers.
- If you have sustained an exposure or puncture wound, immediately flush the exposed area, and notify a staff member.