

# Standard Operating Procedure

## Staff Health Management

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### OBJECTIVES

To promote and maintain employee health and to identify staff health management protocols that prevent cross-contamination to coworkers, the working environment, and medical devices.

### APPLICABILITY

Compliance with this document is required by all Alberta Health Services employees, members of the medical and midwifery staff, students, volunteers, and other persons acting on behalf of Alberta Health Services (including contracted service providers as necessary) working within Medical Device Reprocessing Area.

### ELEMENTS

1. AHS policies and procedures must be followed regarding management of exposure to communicable disease.
2. All MDR staff shall be offered Hepatitis B vaccines and other immunizations, as applicable.
3. To prevent the spread of infection, MDR staff should know their immunization status and should comply with AHS guidelines for Employee Immunizations. (*See Our Teams, Departments, Human Resources, and WHS on Insite or CompassionNet*).
4. MDR staff should stay away from work when infectious with a communicable disease, including but not limited to: acute conjunctivitis, acute respiratory infection or gastroenteritis with vomiting or diarrhea, extensive zoster that cannot be kept covered, open infected skin lesions or herpetic skin lesions on the hands.
5. MDR staff who have exudative lesions or weeping dermatitis must wear the appropriate gloves to cover all affected areas. If it is not possible to cover effected areas the technician shall refrain from handling surgical linens, supplies, patient care equipment and/or medical devices until the condition is resolved.
6. MDR staff who have chronic respiratory conditions, e.g., asthma, shall be assessed by Workplace Health and Safety or Occupational Health and Safety personnel prior to working with any cleaning solutions, chemical disinfections or chemical sterilants.

### DEFINITIONS

None

## REFERENCES

- Alberta Health Services governance documents
  - *AHS Communicable Disease Assessment Policy (1170)*
  - *AHS Hand Hygiene Policy (PS-02)*
  - *AHS Hand Hygiene Procedure (PS-02-01)*
  - *Refer to Alberta Health Services on Insite, Our Teams, Infection Prevention & Control*
  
- Non-Alberta Health Services documents
  - *Routine Practices and additional Precautions for Preventing the Transmission of Infection in Healthcare Settings* (Centre for Communicable Diseases and Infection Control – Public Health Agency of Canada (Cat.: HP40-83/2013E-PDF, ISBN: 978-1-100-22038-3).
  - *Reusable & Single-Use Medical Devices Standards.* (Government of Alberta-Alberta Health) (September 2019).
  - *Canadian Medical Device Reprocessing in all Health Care Settings* (Canadian Standards Association) (CAN/CSA Z314-23)

## VERSION HISTORY

Date	Action taken
October 2017	Initial approval
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