Effective Blood & Bodily Fluid Spill Management

Blood and bodily fluid spillages require rapid, effective containment and surface decontamination because they may contain high concentrations of infectious microorganisms, including blood-borne viruses (BBVs).

Recognised guidance does not specify a single protocol to follow, rather recommending “best practice is to use an appropriate spillage kit”, following the manufacturer’s instructions. Spill kits containing wipes are an identified example of a suitable kit for the management of blood and other body fluid spills.

CDC guidance recommends chlorine-based disinfectants at 500-5000ppm free chlorine is used to disinfect spills after the spill has been absorbed and the area cleaned.

HSE guidance advises that blood and body fluid contamination should be wiped up using absorbent material and an appropriate disinfectant, while following local spill-kit procedures. Where a spill kit is not available, the guidance recommends 10,000 ppm available chlorine “or equivalent product as per manufacturer’s instructions.”

Medipal Spill Kit combines a highly absorbent pad with ready-to-use 5,000 ppm available chlorine disinfectant wipes. The pad absorbs up to 1,200 ml, allowing the bulk of the spill to be rapidly contained and removed before the surface is disinfected.

Crucially, the efficacy of the ready-to use disinfectant wipe has been independently tested to recognised European standards. The Medipal Chlorine Disinfectant Wipes demonstrate full virucidal efficacy under EN 14476 in dirty conditions, including testing against poliovirus, murine norovirus and adenovirus. They also demonstrate sporicidal efficacy against Clostridioides difficile under EN 17846 in dirty conditions.

This is particularly relevant to blood-spill management. NHS guidance specifically highlights hepatitis B, hepatitis C and HIV as blood-borne viruses that will not be killed if an incorrectly diluted chlorine disinfectant is used. The Medipal system translates the essential principles of recognised spillmanagement guidance into a simple, controlled process:

Absorb > Remove > Disinfect > Dispose

The absorbent pad rapidly contains the spill, reducing visible contamination before the ready-to-use chlorine wipes are applied to the affected surface. The wipes provide a consistent, pre-formulated disinfectant dose without requiring staff to measure or dilute chlorine at the point of use. When disinfecting, move from clean to dirty using an “S” shaped motion, with the process repeated where necessary.

This provides a documented, controlled and practical method of achieving the essential stages of spill containment and surface decontamination.

Medipal Spill Kit should therefore be viewed not as a departure from established infection-prevention principles, but as a modern delivery format for them: a purpose-designed spill kit combining effective absorption with a ready-to-use, validated disinfectant.

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