

## Policy

It is the policy of Living Well Disability Services to follow universal precautions and sanitary practices, including hand washing, for infection prevention and control, and to prevent communicable diseases.

## Procedures

- A. Universal precautions, sanitary practices, and prevention  
Universal precautions apply to the following infectious materials: blood; bodily fluids visibly contaminated by blood; semen; and vaginal secretions. All staff are required to follow universal precautions and sanitary practices, including:
1. Use of proper hand washing procedure.
  2. Use of gloves in contact with infectious materials.
  3. Use of a gown or apron when clothing may become soiled with infectious materials
  4. Use of a mask and eye protection, if splashing is possible.
  5. Use of gloves and disinfecting solution when cleaning a contaminated surface
  6. Proper disposal of sharps.
  7. Use of gloves and proper bagging procedures when handling and washing contaminated laundry.
- B. Control of communicable diseases ([Reportable Infectious Diseases: Reportable Diseases A-Z - Minnesota Dept. of Health](#))(<http://www.health.state.mn.us>)
1. Staff will report any signs of possible infections or symptoms of communicable diseases that a person receiving services is experiencing to the nurse.
  2. When a person receiving services has been exposed to a diagnosed communicable disease, staff will promptly report to other licensed providers and residential settings.
  3. Staff diagnosed with a communicable disease, may return to work upon direction of a health care professional.

Additional information and resources are available in the health counseling manual.

Legal Authority: MS §§ [245D.11](#), subd. 2 (1) and [245D.06](#), subd 2 (5)

NOTE: The website from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) is included as a resource for additional information.