

## **SAMPLE INFECTION CONTROL POLICY**

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### **PURPOSE**

To ensure that employees and clients are protected against infectious diseases and infections.

### **POLICY**

The First Nations Health Organization shall use infection control principles and practices in care delivery in order to reduce the risk of infection to clients, families, employees and the entire community.

Hiring practices shall be designed to reduce the risk of infection and the spread of disease. All employees shall provide a record of current immunization status at the time of hiring.

### **POLICY APPLICATION**

Immunization of employees is required where exposure to high-risk infections exist such as Hepatitis B and Tuberculosis. Consent forms shall be obtained from employees prior to any immunization. All employees exposed to high risk infections and communicable diseases will be screened immediately.

Program management will complete an investigation of any incidents. All cases of exposure to high-risk infections and communicable diseases shall be reported to the appropriate health authorities and, if necessary, to community leadership. Incidents will be reviewed and analyzed by program management to identify ways to improve care delivery and reduce risk of infection to clients, families and employees.

Infection control principles and practices include:

- Hand washing techniques
- Aseptic techniques
- Use of personal protective equipment
- Care and cleaning of equipment
- Supplies required for universal precautions
- Disposal of blood and body fluids
- Needle use and disposal
- Types of infections in the community
- Accidental spills
- Identification and isolation of infectious diseases
- Care of clients with infectious diseases
- Reporting and recording of infectious diseases
- Reporting and recording of employees incidents of exposure to infectious diseases
- Environmental assessment of client access to safe drinking water, disposal of waste products, and safe food management
- Client/family teaching about infection control

Training and education of employees about infection control practices shall be conducted on an ongoing basis.

All employees shall use universal precautions when providing direct care. Employees shall be provided

with the necessary personal protective equipment to prevent exposure to infectious diseases.

The health status of all employees shall be monitored on a regular basis. Records of any employee exposure to infectious diseases shall be maintained in the individual employee's personnel file.

Program management shall follow the Occupational Health and Safety Act Guidelines for infection control

All hazardous wastes must be properly labeled handled and discarded. Any buildings or other physical space used for the Program must meet legislated safety requirements.