Gloving

Procedure

SETA Head Start is committed to ensuring a safe, clean and secure environment for all children and staff. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) recommend wearing gloves when coming in contact with blood, mucous membranes (e.g., mouth and eyes) and other bodily discharges. Gloves provide a protective barrier against germs that cause infection. It is recommended staff review the Bloodborne Pathogen Procedure and incorporate universal precautions into their daily routine.

Procedure: Latex-free gloves are available for all staff and must be worn for the following situations:

- Caring for bloody injuries
- Cleaning surfaces and handling clothes, supplies or other items soiled with blood and bodily fluids
- All diaper changes
- Caring for oozing skin rashes or lesions
- Providing mouth and eye care
- Administering special medications
- Cleaning up spills of all body fluids (e.g., blood, vomit, urine and stool)

Gloves provide added protection from communicable disease only if used correctly. The keys to wearing gloves properly are:

1. Washing hands prior to wearing gloves- removing jewelry prior to washing hands is highly recommended. **Note:** See Hand Washing Policy and Procedure for further guidance.

2. Staff wearing jewelry must wear larger sized gloves to ensure proper fit.

3. Wear fresh pair of gloves before each procedure. **NEVER REUSE GLOVES.**

4. Remove gloves using proper technique and dispose of them properly (see attached “Gloving Technique”).

5. Wash hands after removing gloves.
REMEMBER: WASH HANDS PRIOR TO WEARING GLOVES, AND NEVER USE GLOVES AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR HANDWASHING.

Gloving Technique

The following instructions will supplement the Head Start Gloving Procedure. Head Start staff are required to follow these directions when encountering the situations outlined in the Gloving Procedure.

**Putting on Gloves:**

1. Wash hands with soap and water, and dry thoroughly- removing jewelry prior to washing hands is highly recommended.
2. Staff wearing jewelry must wear larger sized gloves to ensure proper fit.
3. Before putting gloves on, be sure to examine for dirt or damage (tears or holes). Replace gloves if necessary.
4. Replace gloves before dealing with another child or if they become heavily soiled.

**Removing Gloves:**

1. Remove gloves carefully to prevent splattering. Grab the outside wrist of one glove with your other hand. Turn glove inside out as you remove it.

2. Drop the inverted glove into the other hand and slide your bare finger under the second glove to invert it and trap the first glove inside.