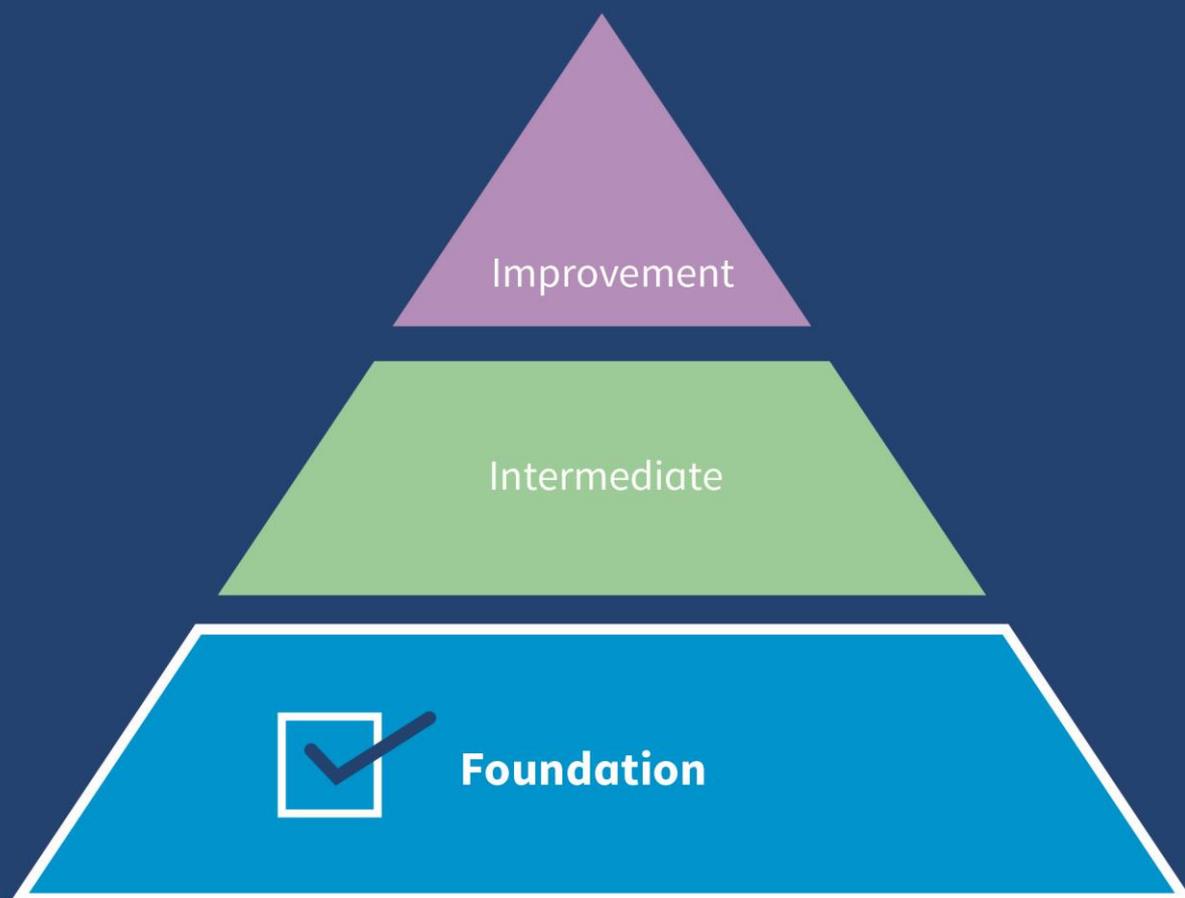


# Safe Management of Blood and Body Fluid Spillages

Scottish Infection Prevention and Control Education Pathway



# Safe Management of Blood and Body Fluid Spillages

## Printable learning resource

### What is this resource?

This resource is based on the e-learning module “NES: Blood and Body Fluid Spillages” from the **Scottish Infection Prevention and Control Education Pathway**.

The aim of this document is to make the e-learning content available to learners who

- do not have regular access to a computer and/or a network
- do not yet have the necessary IT skills or confidence to complete e-learning
- have different needs and therefore e-learning is not suitable for them.

All screen captures from the original module are included.

### How should this resource be used?

This resource can either be

- uploaded as a PDF file to tablets or other digital devices without internet access, or
- printed. (Printing in black and white is sufficient.)
  
- All navigational instructions on the screens in this document should be ignored.
- We have given instructions on how to complete interactivities and questions.
- A space has been provided for staff to make any additional notes after each topic.

### Internet access

Internet access is required for the following:

**Online feedback form and web links** for additional resources. Staff should be enabled to use web links and complete the feedback form if at all possible.

**Online assessment.** The online version of this resource consists of the e-learning module and a separate online assessment, and staff should be enabled and encouraged to complete this online assessment locally.



# Safe management of body and blood fluid spillages



[Learn how to navigate this module.](#)

Start

## Why dealing with blood and body fluid spillages is important

The safe management of blood and body fluids spillages is one of the 10 Standard Infection Control Precautions (SICPs). Spillages can happen at any time during care delivery.

### Why dealing with blood and body fluid spillages is important - Transcript

For healthcare staff working in acute, community, care home and residential settings, dealing with blood and body fluid spillages can be a regular and challenging occurrence.

Body fluids, including blood, faeces, vomit and sputum are all considered to be potential sources for blood-borne viruses - for example, hepatitis B or other micro-organisms.

It is therefore vital that all spillages of blood and body fluids are cleaned up as soon as possible, and contaminated surfaces are disinfected immediately.

## Aim and target audience

This module aims to enable you to safely manage blood and body fluid spillages in your workplace.

Safe management of blood and body fluid spillages helps make sure that no harm comes to:

- those you care for
- staff
- visitors
- you.

This module is ideal for **all staff new to health and social care**.

It's also suitable for **more experienced staff** who want to refresh their knowledge or update skills.



It is important that you have completed the **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** and **Hand Hygiene** modules from the Scottish Infection Prevention & Control Education Pathway before starting this module.



[< PREV](#) [NEXT >](#)

## Learning outcomes

After completing this module, **you will be able to**:

- Carry out a risk assessment to minimise the risk of blood and body fluid spillages.
- Correctly apply the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual (NIPCM) **Management of blood and body fluid spillages flowchart** to safely:
  - manage blood and other body fluid spillages
  - discard used equipment after use.



[< PREV](#) [NEXT >](#)

## Overview

This module has 2 topics:

- **Topic 1:** Introducing blood and body fluid spillages (10 minutes).
- **Topic 2:** Learning in practice (10 minutes).

You will learn from a series of **activities** and **real life scenarios** that will help you put the knowledge into practice in your workplace.

Before you start, check the **Glossary** to ensure you're familiar with key terms such as **Blood Borne Viruses (BBV)**, **micro-organism** or **disinfectant**.

Once you've visited **all the screens** in this module, you can access the separate assessment. You need to **score 80%** in the assessment to pass and get a certificate of completion.



This module will take you about 20 minutes to complete.

< PREV NEXT >



## Topic 1: Introducing blood and body fluid spillages

In this topic, you will learn about:

- minimising the risk of blood and body fluid spillages
- safely managing a blood or body fluid spillage.

You will explore some practical measures to avoid blood and body fluid spillages. Then you will walk through the 5 steps of managing a spillage using a toolkit and job aid.



Remember, you can use the **Menu** to jump to any screen or to check where you are in this topic.

< PREV NEXT >

## &gt; Topic 1:

## Introducing blood and body fluid spillages

## Spillages - who's responsible?

**Blood and body fluid spillages must be decontaminated immediately by staff trained to do this safely.** Consider this scenario:

Alice is a receptionist in care home, she has not been trained to clean up spillages.

Alice discovers a urine spill.



**What should Alice do?** Select **all options** that apply, then select **SUBMIT**.

- Attempt to clean up the worst of the spillage.
- Report it to someone who can safely deal with it.
- Cordon off the area.
- Do nothing, it's a risk for untrained staff to clean up a spillage.



< PREV SUBMIT

Please try to answer the question above and then check the answer and the feedback on the following page.

> Topic 1: Introducing blood and body fluid spillages

## Spillages - who's responsible?

Blood and body fluid spillages must be decontaminated immediately by staff trained to do this safely. Consider this scenario:

Alice is a receptionist in care home, she has not been trained to clean up spillages.

Alice discovers a urine spill.



**What should Alice do?** Select all options that apply, then select **SUBMIT**.

- Attempt to clean up the worst of the spillage.
- Report it to someone who can safely deal with it.
- Cordon off the area.
- Do nothing, it's a risk for untrained staff to clean up a spillage.



< PREV SUBMIT

## Correct



**That's correct.** Even if Alice has not been trained to clean up spillages, she should **cordoned off the area** and **report it to someone** who can safely deal with it.

Dealing with blood and body fluids is an important part of health and safety and the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH).

Get to know your **local policy** for dealing with spillages. If you're not sure, **ask** another work colleague or your line manager.



Continue >

SUBMIT

> Topic 1: Introducing blood and body fluid spillages

## Minimising risk

There are **simple things** you can do to minimise the risk of blood and body fluid spillages. You can risk assess the people in your care and take action to reduce spills. Here are some examples.



**Consider the people below.** See if you can match each person to the appropriate action, then select **SUBMIT**. Click on the activity and drag it on the person to link them.

People	Action
Donald has a urinary catheter bag.	Keep disposable tissues or a disposable container handy.
Mary feels sick.	Firmly close the bag tap after each use.
Tariq has diarrhoea.	Provide access to a nearby toilet or commode.
Meera has a productive cough.	Keep a disposable bowl handy.

< PREV SUBMIT

Please try to answer the question above and then check the answer and the feedback on the following page. You can match the items with numbers or letters.

> Topic 1: Introducing blood and body fluid spillages

## Minimising risk

There are **simple things** you can do to minimise the risk of blood and body fluid spillages. You can risk assess the people in your care and take action to reduce spills. Here are some examples.



**Consider the people below.** See if you can match each person to the appropriate action, then select **SUBMIT**. Click on the activity and drag it on the person to link them.

People	Action
Donald has a urinary catheter bag.	Firmly close the bag tap after each use.
Mary feels sick.	Keep a disposable bowl handy.
Tariq has diarrhoea.	Provide access to a nearby toilet or commode.
Meera has a productive cough.	Keep disposable tissues or a disposable container handy.

< PREV SUBMIT

## Correct

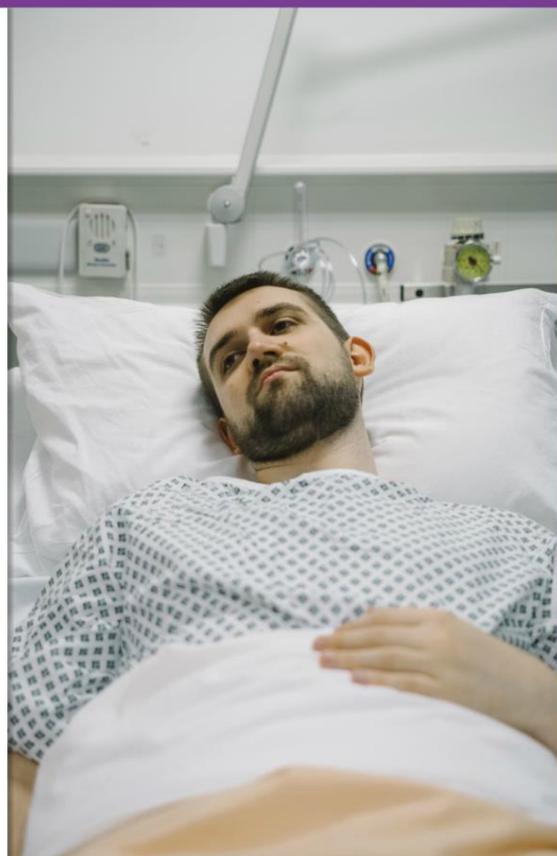


**That's correct.** You matched the right action to the patient.

These actions will further minimise the risk of spills:

- Remove urinary catheters as soon as possible and also consider alternative methods to promote urinary continence.
- Identify and deal with the cause of sickness or diarrhoea.
- Dispose of used tissues and disposable containers as soon as possible.

Continue >

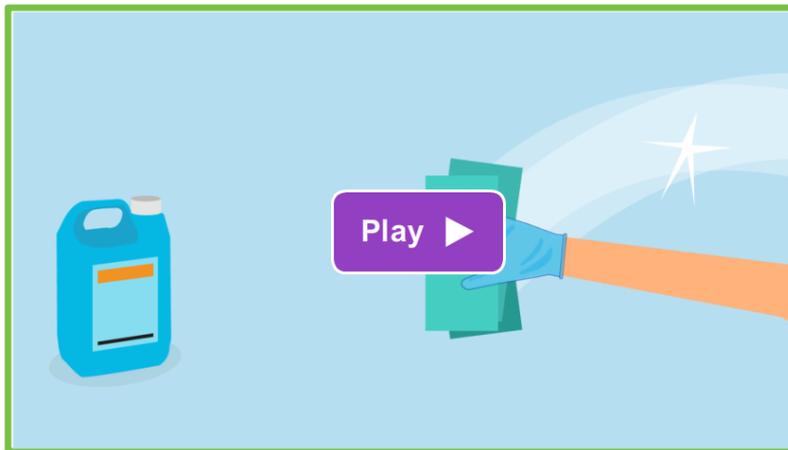


SUBMIT

## Managing a blood or body fluid spillage



You can use the **management of blood and body fluid spillages flowchart** from the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual and a **five step process** to help you manage spillages. **Watch the video to learn more.**



Access the [National Infection Prevention and Control Manual](#) and the [flowchart](#).



Can't see or hear the video? Read the [transcript](#).

< PREV NEXT >



### Managing a blood or body fluid spillage - Transcript

The NHS Scotland National Infection Prevention and Control Manual explains how to successfully manage a blood or body fluid spillage. It contains a handy **Algorithm** to help assess and deal with a range of spillages.

**There are five steps necessary to successfully manage a spillage:**

STEP 1: CORDON THE SPILLAGE OFF

STEP 2: ASSESS THE TYPE OF SPILLAGE - the **Algorithm** will help you here!

STEP 3: COLLECT THE CORRECT EQUIPMENT

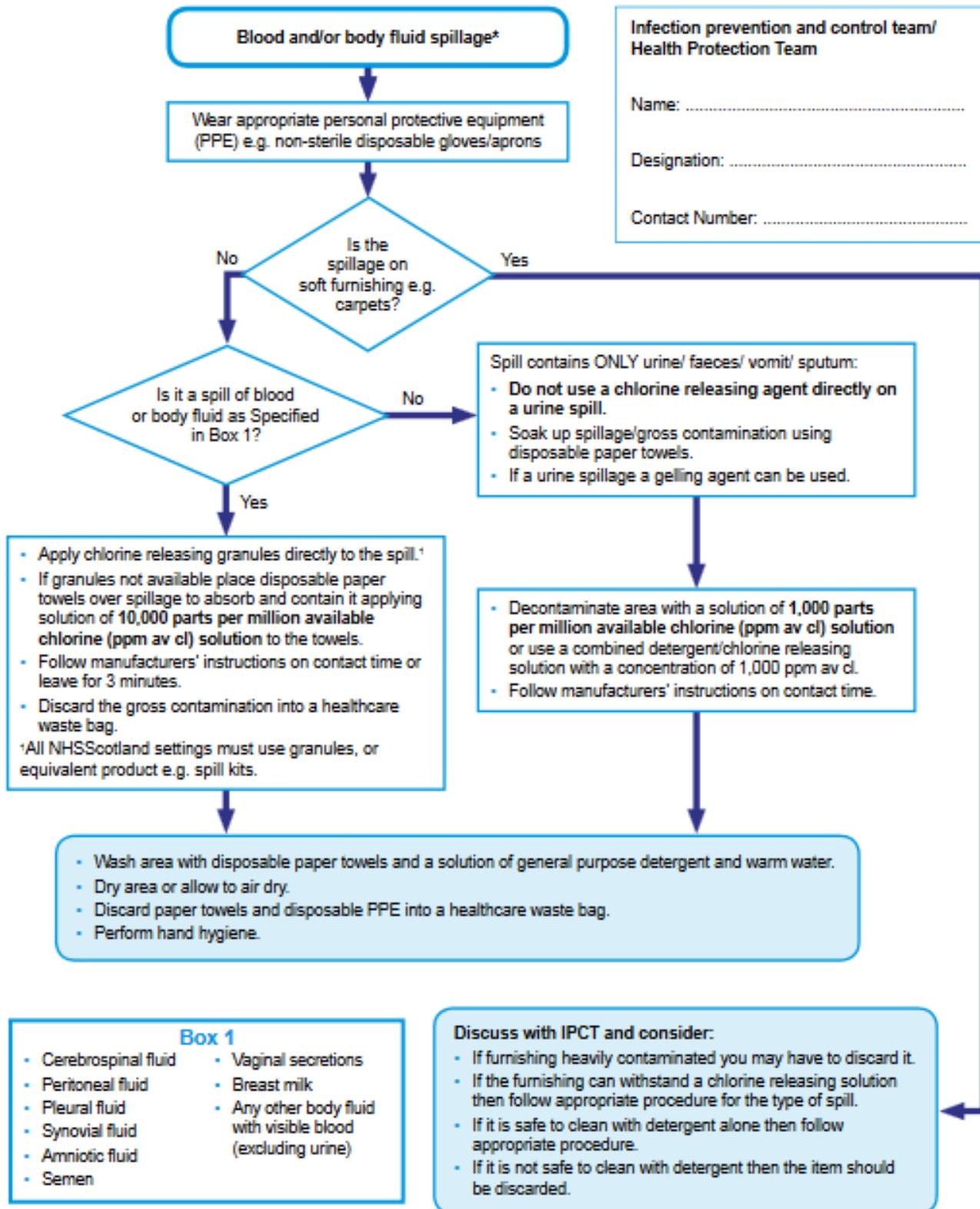
STEP 4: PROTECT YOURSELF

STEP 5: DISINFECT AND CLEAN

Following these steps ensures no harm comes to those we care for, other staff, visitors and ourselves.

National Infection Prevention and Control Manual link: <http://www.nipcm.hps.scot.nhs.uk/>

## Appendix 9 – Management of blood and body fluid spillages



\* Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service and Scottish Ambulance Service use products that differ from those stated in the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual.

Part of the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual (NIPCM), available at: <http://www.nipcm.hps.scot.nhs.uk/>.  
 Produced by: Health Protection Scotland, April 2016.



## Step 1: Cordoning off a spillage

Here are some helpful tips for cordoning off a spillage:

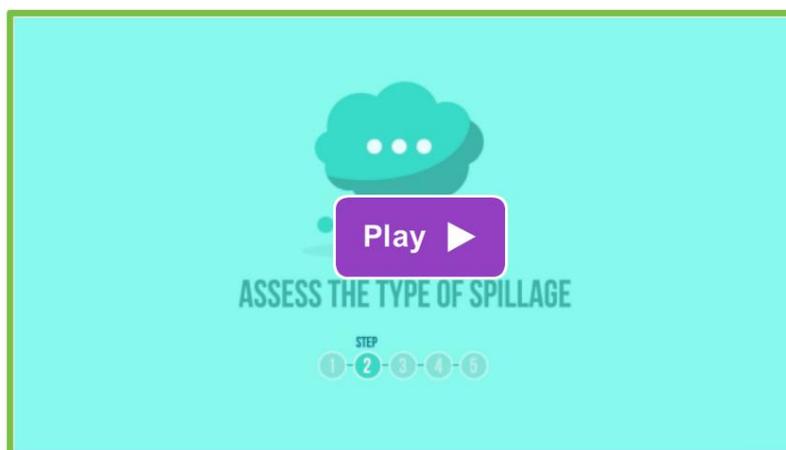
- Put up wet floor notices or another physical barrier around the spillage to make the area safe.
- If there are no wet floor notices around, stay beside the spillage to protect it until someone comes to help you or lock the room if able to.
- Never touch the spillage if you have not been trained, and never without wearing personal protective equipment.
- In some environments, cordoning off the spillage may not be appropriate and dealing with the spillage as soon as possible is the priority e.g. in an ambulance vehicle.



## Step 2: Assess the type of spillage



The flowchart will help you assess the type of spillage. Watch this video to see how Nuria, a nurse, uses the flowchart to assess a spillage by asking herself some important questions.



Can't see or hear the video? Read the [transcript](#).



We will follow Nuria throughout this module.

## Step 2: Assess the type of spillage - Transcript

### Using the Algorithm in a Clinical Setting

Nuria is a nurse working in a local hospital. She checks on Bryan, a patient, who is sitting in a chair beside his bed. Bryan has a needle inserted into his arm to administer his medication. Nuria notices this has become dislodged and there is a small spillage of blood on the floor. Nuria remembers the five steps.

#### Step 1: Cordon the spillage off

Nuria carefully moves Bryan and the chair, and places WET FLOOR notices around the spillage.

#### Step 2: Assess the type of spillage

Nuria goes over to the sluice area, consults the Algorithm which is on the wall, and assesses the spillage by asking the following questions:

Q: Is the spillage on soft furnishings or carpet?

A: No, it is on a hard surface

Q: Is the spillage blood, blood-stained fluid, or other bodily fluid?

A: Yes

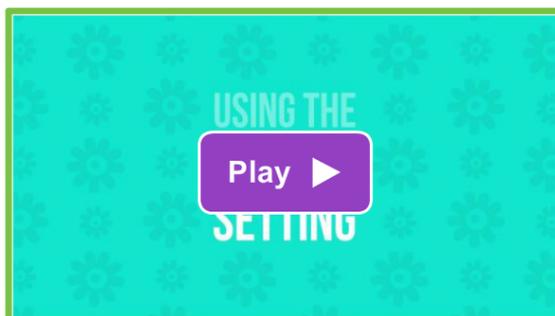
Nuria can now follow the appropriate steps to successfully manage the spillage.

Please read the video transcript below and try to answer the question below using the flow chart. Then check the answer and the feedback on the following page. You can view the flow chart on page 11.

## Using the Algorithm in a Care Home Setting - Part 1 - Transcript

Hardeep is a Care Worker in a Care Home. He walks past Betty, an elderly patient who has a urinary catheter in. Hardeep notices a large spillage of urine on the floor. He investigates and notices the tap on the catheter bag has not been closed correctly causing urine to leak from the catheter bag onto the floor.

### Step 2: Assess the type of spillage



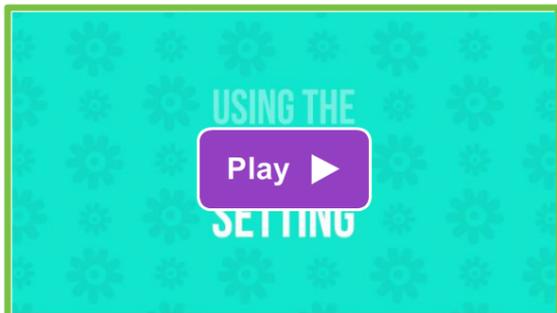
**What should Hardeep do?** Select **all options** that apply, then select **SUBMIT**.

- Apply chlorine releasing granules directly to the spillage.
- Soak up spillage using disposable paper towels.
- Use a gelling agent if available.



Can't see or hear the video? Read the [transcript](#).

## Step 2: Assess the type of spillage



**What should Hardeep do?** Select **all options** that apply, then select **SUBMIT**.

- Apply chlorine releasing granules directly to the spillage.
- Soak up spillage using disposable paper towels.
- Use a gelling agent if available.

< PREV SUBMIT

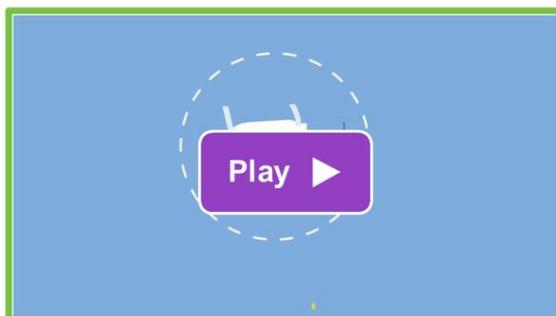
## Correct



**That's correct.** You can either soak up the spillage with disposable paper towels or use a gelling agent if you have one. Never apply chlorine releasing granules directly onto urine as chlorine gas will be released.



Watch the video to see what Hardeep does.



Can't see or hear the video?  
Read the [transcript](#).

Continue >



< PREV SUBMIT

## Using the Algorithm in a Care Home Setting - Part 2 - Transcript

Hardeep recalls the FIVE STEPS.

He places physical barriers around the spillage to prevent slippages and harm to other people.

He consults the **Algorithm** and assesses the spillage. The spillage is urine on a hard surface. Hardeep **knows not to** use a chlorine releasing agent directly on the urine spillage as it will react with the urine and release chlorine gas.

He can now follow the appropriate steps to successfully manage the spillage.

> Topic 1: Introducing blood and body fluid spillages

### Step 2: Assess the type of spillage

When assessing a spillage, you will answer these key questions:

- Is the spillage on a **soft furnishing** e.g. a carpet or cushion, or is it on a **hard surface**?
- Is it a spill of blood or body fluid?

All of these factors can affect which equipment and products you need to safely manage the spillage.



This procedure should be used when dealing with other body fluid spillages, such as semen, pleural and amniotic fluids. See **box 1 of the flowchart** for a full list.

**Remember, if you have not been trained or are unsure on how to manage a spillage, report it to someone who can safely deal with it.**

- Perform hand hygiene.

#### Box 1

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| • Cerebrospinal fluid | • Vaginal secretions  |
| • Peritoneal fluid    | • Breast milk   |
| • Pleural fluid       | • Any other body fluid with visible blood (excluding urine) |
| • Synovial fluid      |   |
| • Amniotic fluid      |   |
| • Semen               |   |

#### Discus

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\* Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service and Scottish Ambulance Service that differ from those stated in the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual.

Part of the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual (NIPCM), available at: <http://www.nipcm.hps.scot.nhs.uk/>.

Produced by: Health Protection Scotland, April 2016.

> Topic 1: Introducing blood and body fluid spillages

### Soft furnishings – special considerations

Some soft furnishings **can** withstand chlorine releasing agents and others **cannot**.

The [flowchart](#) will help you decide what to do if there is a spillage on soft furnishings, including carpets.

**Before** buying soft furnishings in care settings, look at the manufacturer’s instructions to see how they can be cleaned. If you’re **not sure**, discuss with your Infection Prevention and Control/Health Protection Team.

Furnishings that are:

- heavily contaminated with blood or body fluids; or
- unable to be cleaned

may have to be **discarded**.



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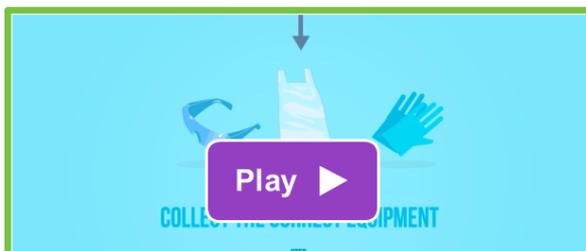
> Topic 1: Introducing blood and body fluid spillages

### Step 3: Collect the correct equipment

All spillages are cleaned using a common set of equipment. Remember, for every spillage, you will need access to hand hygiene facilities, such as a hand washing sink or an Alcohol Based Hand Rub (ABHR).



Watch the video to learn what equipment Nuria gathers to safely manage the small blood spillage from Brian’s dislodged infusion needle.



*\*Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service and Scottish Ambulance Service use products that differ from the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual.*

#### Step 3: Collect The Correct Equipment - Transcript

Nuria gathers chlorine releasing granules, non-sterile disposable gloves and apron, paper towels, general-purpose neutral detergent and a healthcare waste bag.



< PREV NEXT >

&gt; Topic 1:

Introducing blood and body fluid spillages

## Step 3: Collect the correct equipment - disinfectant

Although the equipment you have access to should be the same, the **strength** and type of product you need and the **hazards** change depending on the type of spillage you are managing.



Select each type of spillage to learn **what strength and type of products are needed** to safely manage it.

Blood

Urine

Faeces/vomit/sputum

### Blood

The effects of chlorine releasing agents are reduced when in contact with blood or other organic matter. This is why you need to use a higher concentration of product when treating blood spillages. You will need:

- chlorine releasing granules

**OR**

- a solution of **10,000 parts per million available chlorine (ppm av cl)**.



< PREV NEXT >

&gt; Topic 1:

Introducing blood and body fluid spillages

## Step 3: Collect the correct equipment - disinfectant

Although the equipment you have access to should be the same, the **strength** and type of product you need and the **hazards** change depending on the type of spillage you are managing.



Select each type of spillage to learn **what strength and type of products are needed** to safely manage it.

Blood

Urine

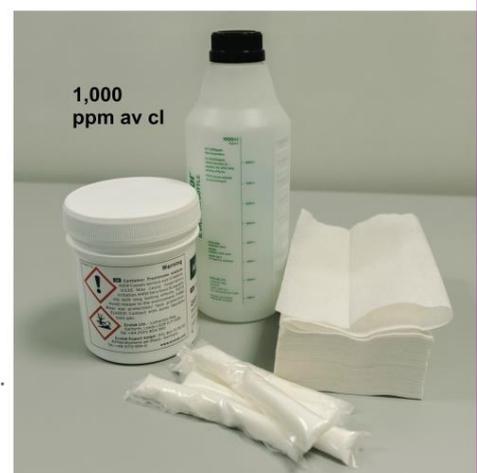
Faeces/vomit/sputum

### Urine

To safely manage a urine spillage you need:

- disposable paper towels
- a non-chlorine releasing gelling agent (if available) to absorb the spillage
- a chlorine releasing agent containing **1,000 ppm av cl**.

**Remember - NEVER** use a chlorine releasing agent **directly** on a urine spillage. It will react with the acid in the urine and produce a toxic chlorine gas!



< PREV NEXT >

> Topic 1: Introducing blood and body fluid spillages

### Step 3: Collect the correct equipment - disinfectant

Although the equipment you have access to should be the same, the **strength** and type of product you need and the **hazards** change depending on the type of spillage you are managing.



Select each type of spillage to learn **what strength and type of products are needed** to safely manage it.

Blood

Urine

Faeces/vomit/sputum

#### Faeces/vomit/sputum

To safely manage a **faeces, vomit or sputum spillage** you need:

- disposable paper towels
- a chlorine releasing agent containing **1,000 ppm av cl**.



< PREV NEXT >

> Topic 1: Introducing blood and body fluid spillages

### Step 3: Collect the correct equipment - products

The products we use to clean and disinfect are powerful chemicals. When used correctly, they protect our health. But used wrongly, they can endanger us and other people. **Always read and follow manufacturer's instructions.**



Select each label to explore the important differences between **chlorine releasing agents and non-chlorine releasing gelling agents.**



Chlorine releasing agents



Gelling agents

< PREV NEXT >



## Step 4: Protect yourself

Wearing the correct PPE when managing spillages protects you from infection and your clothing from contamination. **Follow these practices:**

- Make sure that any cuts or grazes are covered with a waterproof dressing.
- Choose the correct PPE for the task. The PPE needed changes depending on the size and type of spillage. You don't need every type of PPE for every spillage.
- Refer to the [Glove use and selection](#) flowchart to select your disposable gloves.
- Follow the correct procedure for [Putting on and removing PPE](#).
- Wear protective eyewear and a face mask if there's a danger of splashing to your eyes or mouth.
- Always perform hand hygiene after removing any PPE.



To learn more, access the **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** e-learning module or visit the **Resources** screen in this module.



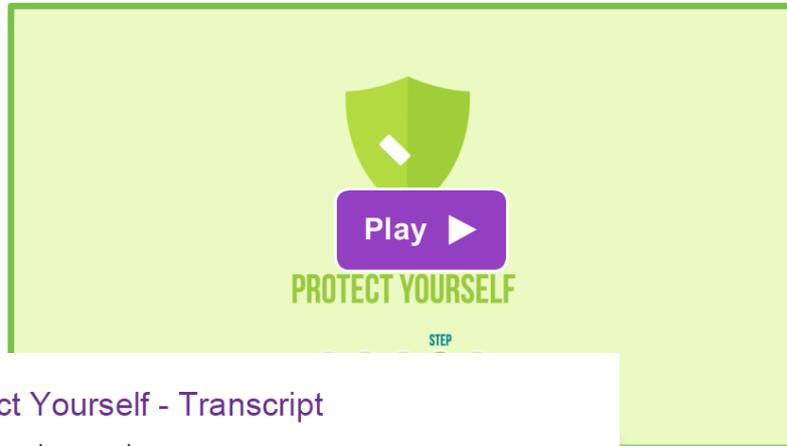
Glove use and selection link: <http://www.nipcm.hps.scot.nhs.uk/media/1289/nipcm-appendix5-20160322.pdf>

Putting on removing PPE link: <http://www.nipcm.hps.scot.nhs.uk/appendices/appendix-6-putting-on-and-removing-ppe/>

## Nuria's PPE



Nuria is going to clean up a small blood spillage next. What PPE is she going to need? Watch the video to find out what she selects.



### Step 4: Protect Yourself - Transcript

Nuria then puts on her gloves and apron.

Nuria has assessed that she does not need eye or facial protection as there is no risk of splashing.



## Step 5: Disinfect and clean

It's important to **disinfect** blood and body fluid spillages **before** you clean to make it safe for you to handle the spillage. How you disinfect depends on the **type** of the spillage.



The care staff below have assessed the spillages and chosen the correct products to deal with them. **Drag each care giver to the type of spillage they're equipped to manage.**



John has chlorine-releasing granules.



Marie has disposable paper towels and a weak disinfectant solution.



Adam has a gelling agent.

Faeces/vomit/sputum

Blood

Urine

< PREV SUBMIT

Please try to answer the question above and then check the answer and the feedback on the following page. You can write the names in the correct boxes.

> Topic 1: Introducing blood and body fluid spillages

### Step 5: Disinfect and clean

It's important to **disinfect** blood and body fluid spillages **before** you clean to make it safe for you to handle the spillage. How you disinfect depends on the **type** of the spillage.



The care staff below have assessed the spillages and chosen the correct products to deal with them. **Drag each care giver to the type of spillage they're equipped to manage.**



Marie has disposable paper towels and a weak disinfectant solution.

Faeces/vomit/sputum



John has chlorine-releasing granules.

Blood



Adam has a gelling agent.

Urine

< PREV SUBMIT

### Correct



**That's correct.**  
Click each staff member to learn more.



Marie

**Marie has disposable paper towels and a disinfectant solution, ideal for faeces/vomit/sputum spillages.**  
These spillages don't carry as high a risk of BBVs as blood which is why a weaker strength (1,000 ppm av cl) of disinfectant is all that's required. Gelling agents can be used on urine spillages. Other body fluid spillages can be soaked up using paper towels followed by the disinfectant.



John

**John has chlorine releasing granules so he's equipped to clean up a blood spillage.**  
Chlorine releasing granules (10,000 ppm av cl) absorb and disinfect blood spillages. Gelling agents are not disinfectants so should not be used on blood spillages. John could also use disposable paper towels over the spillage and apply a solution of 10,000 ppm av cl to the towels if he does not have granules.



Adam



SUBMIT

## Correct



**That's correct.**

Click each staff member to learn more.



**Adam has a gelling agent which can be used on urine spillages.** It absorbs the spillage and makes it easier for you to safely handle urine spillages **before** the area is disinfected. Chlorine releasing granules applied onto urine (if acid), will produce toxic chlorine gas. Gelling agents are not disinfectants so should not be used on blood spillages. Adam could use disposable paper towels if no granules are available.

Continue >



SUBMIT

> Topic 1: Introducing blood and body fluid spillages

### Step 5: Disinfect and clean

Nuria, the nurse, has cordoned off a small blood spill. She has selected the right products and equipment, and put on PPE. Do you know how she should disinfect and clean a blood spillage?



Drag and drop the steps into the correct order and select **SUBMIT**.

- Wash the area with a solution of general-purpose neutral detergent and warm water with paper towels.
- Apply chlorine releasing granules directly onto the blood spillage.
- Dry the area using paper towels and discard these in a healthcare waste bag.
- Discard the granules and paper towels/scoop into a healthcare waste bag.
- Wipe up the granules using paper towels or a scoop.

- Step 1
- Step 2
- Step 3
- Step 4
- Step 5



< PREV SUBMIT

Please try to answer the question above and number the items in the correct order. Then check the answer and the feedback on the following page.

> Topic 1: Introducing blood and body fluid spillages

### Step 5: Disinfect and clean

Nuria, the nurse, has cordoned off a small blood spill. She has selected the right products and equipment, and put on PPE. **Do you know how she should disinfect and clean a blood spillage?**



Drag and drop the steps into the correct order and select **SUBMIT**.

- Apply chlorine releasing granules directly onto the blood spillage.
- Wipe up the granules using paper towels or a scoop.
- Discard the granules and paper towels/scoop into a healthcare waste bag.
- Wash the area with a solution of general-purpose neutral detergent and warm water with paper towels.
- Dry the area using paper towels and discard these in a healthcare waste bag.



< PREV SUBMIT

### Correct



**That's correct.** The **important first step** is to apply chlorine releasing granules directly onto the spillage and follow manufacturers' instructions on contact time or leave for 3 minutes.



Watch the video to see Nuria clean and disinfect the spillage. Note when she removes her PPE and performs hand hygiene.



### Step 5: Disinfect And Clean - Transcript

Following the manufacturers' instructions, Nuria applies the chlorine releasing granules directly to the blood spillage. She wipes up the granules using paper towels and a scoop. She discards all waste into a healthcare waste bag. She washes the area with a solution of general-purpose neutral detergent and warm water with paper towels. She dries the area using paper towels and discards these in a healthcare waste bag. She removes her gloves and apron and disposes into a healthcare waste bag. Finally she carries out hand hygiene.

SUBMIT

## Step 5: Disinfect and clean

Here's a reminder of the disinfect and clean process for all spillages.

Remember, how you disinfect will depend on the type and size of spillage and the surface.



Access the **Personal Protective Equipment** and **Hand Hygiene** e-learning modules to learn more. You can also explore the content listed in the Resources page.

### Notes for Topic 1: Introducing blood and body fluid spillages



## Topic 2: Learning in practice

You will now explore some real-life scenarios. These will help you to transfer your learning into practice in your workplace. They also test your knowledge of what you've learned so far.



Remember, you can use the **Menu** to jump to any screen or to check where you are in this topic.

[< PREVIOUS](#) [NEXT >](#)

## Alastair deals with a urine spillage



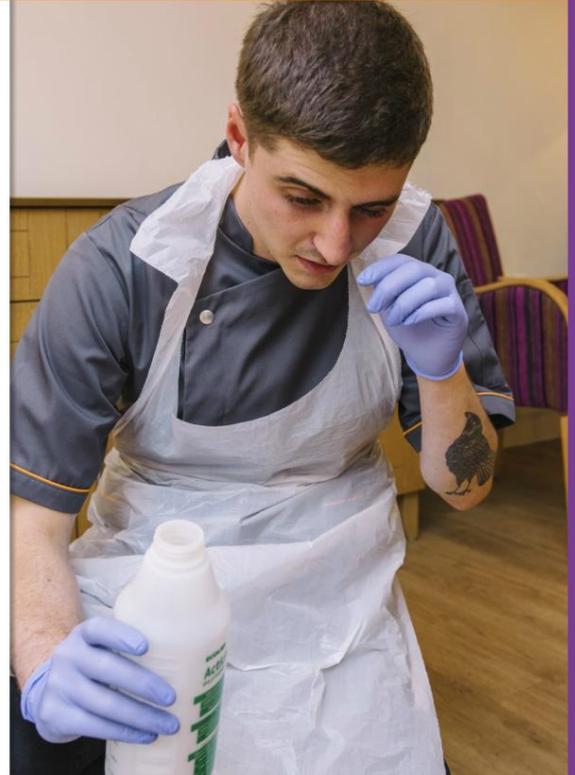
Alastair is a support worker in a care home. He's been asked to clean a urine spill that's just been cordoned off. He's selected a 1,000 ppm av cl disinfectant solution and is wearing his PPE.

He pours the chlorine releasing agent directly onto the urine spillage. Suddenly, his nose, throat and eyes start to burn!



**Why has this happened?** Choose an **option** and then select **SUBMIT**.

- The disinfectant reacted with the acid in the urine, producing chlorine gas.
- The disinfectant he used is too strong for a urine spill.
- He wasn't wearing eye and mouth PPE.
- He poured the disinfectant onto the urine spillage too quickly.



< PREV SUBMIT

Please try to answer the question above and then check the answer and the feedback on the following page.

## Alastair deals with a urine spillage



Alastair is a support worker in a care home. He's been asked to clean a urine spill that's just been cordoned off. He's selected a 1,000 ppm av cl disinfectant solution and is wearing his PPE.

He pours the chlorine releasing agent directly onto the urine spillage. Suddenly, his nose, throat and eyes start to burn!



**Why has this happened?** Choose an **option** and then select **SUBMIT**.

- The disinfectant reacted with the acid in the urine, producing chlorine gas.
- The disinfectant he used is too strong for a urine spill.
- He wasn't wearing eye and mouth PPE.
- He poured the disinfectant onto the urine spillage too quickly.



< PREV SUBMIT

## Correct



**That's correct.**

Chlorine releasing agents should **never** be put straight onto a urine spillage as they react with the acid in the urine producing a toxic chlorine gas. The gas can also cause coughing or chest tightness.

Alistair has to leave the room to get fresh air until the burning in his nose, throat and eyes stops. The room windows are opened for ventilation. The room can't be used until the gas has disappeared.

There's no need to routinely wear face protection when handling the disinfectant.

Alastair should get first aid help and report the incident.

Continue >



< PREV SUBMIT

## Susan has no disinfectants



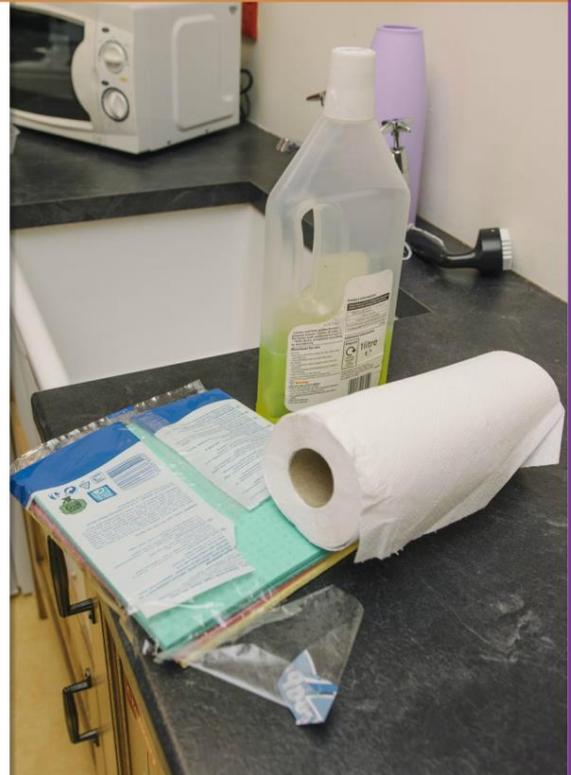
Susan is a District Nurse who is visiting Robert in his home to dress his leg ulcer. Robert looks unwell and is frail and he mentions he has diarrhoea. While in the kitchen, Robert is incontinent of faeces.

Susan doesn't have any chlorine releasing agents with her. Robert has no bleach. Susan has to clean the diarrhoea spillage using some kitchen roll and a household cleaning product.



**What should Susan do?** Choose an **option** and then select **SUBMIT**.

- Use Robert's household cleaning products.
- Contact her work base to have some products sent out to the home.
- Encourage her patients to keep bleach in their home.



< PREV SUBMIT

Please try to answer the question above and then check the answer and the feedback on the following page.

### Susan has no disinfectants



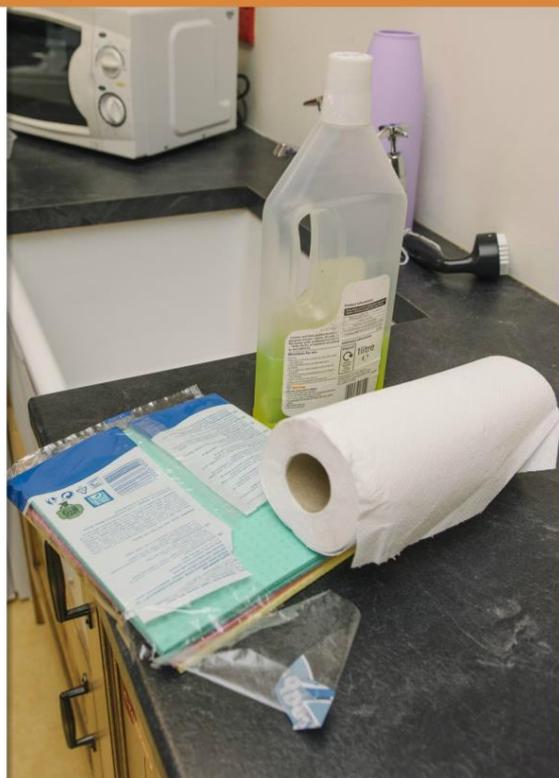
Susan is a District Nurse who is visiting Robert in his home to dress his leg ulcer. Robert looks unwell and is frail and he mentions he has diarrhoea. While in the kitchen, Robert is incontinent of faeces.

Susan doesn't have any chlorine releasing agents with her. Robert has no bleach. Susan has to clean the diarrhoea spillage using some kitchen roll and a household cleaning product.



**What should Susan do?** Choose an **option** and then select **SUBMIT**.

- Use Robert's household cleaning products.
- Contact her work base to have some products sent out to the home.
- Encourage her patients to keep bleach in their home.



< PREV SUBMIT

### Correct



**That's correct.**

Susan should use Robert's household cleaning products as he would normally use these himself. She can't expect her patients to keep bleach in their home as not everyone wants to use this. She can't ask her work base to send products as this would take to long and is unnecessary.



Continue >

< PREV SUBMIT

**Notes for Topic 2: Learning in practice**

## Summary

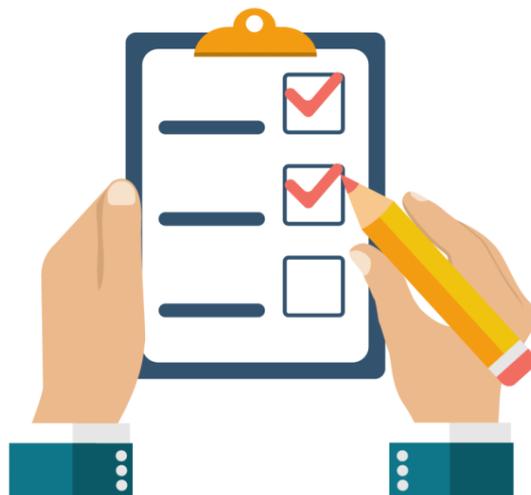
Here are the key points of this module:

- Blood and body fluid spillages must be dealt with immediately.
- Never put chlorine releasing agents directly onto urine spillages.
- Use the correct disinfectant dilution and contact time as per the manufacturer's instructions.
- Carefully assess soft furnishings before buying and applying disinfectants.

Remember, you can use the **Menu** to revisit any screen in this module.



Next, you will look at what you can practically do to get started.



## Next steps

Here are some examples of what you could do to get started to help you safely manage blood and body fluid spillages:

- Download the [flowchart](#) poster and display where you keep spillage materials.
- Keep the poster up to date by regularly accessing the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual (Chapter 1).
- Minimise soft furnishings in care areas where possible where spillages are likely to happen.
- Ensure you have correct equipment and staff are trained in its use.
- Find out about your local policy for managing blood and body fluid spillages.
- Access local policy/flowchart where appropriate e.g. Scottish Ambulance Service.



## Feedback and assessment

Before you start the assessment, we'd like to get your feedback on this module.



Please complete the [Safe management of blood and body fluid spillages – Feedback Questionnaire](#).

After you've answered the questionnaire, you must complete the assessment.



Copyright



Alternative formats



Please close this browser window to exit the module and then open the assessment.

< PREV

Feedback questionnaire link:

<https://response.questback.com/nhseducationforscotland/sipcep04BBFS>

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Transcriptions of any videos within this resource are available on request.



Please close this browser window to exit the module and then open the assessment.

## Printable learning resource – Completion Record

Learning outcomes:

- Carry out a risk assessment to minimise the risk of blood and body fluid spillages.
- Correctly apply the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual (NIPCM) **Management of blood and body fluid spillages flowchart** to safely:
  - manage blood and other body fluid spillages
  - discard used equipment after use.

Anticipated learning time: 20 minutes

I confirm that I have completed the above module.

Learner name: .....

Learner role and location: .....

Learner signature .....



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