

# Infection Prevention & Communicable Disease Management Policy

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## Policy

It is the policy of Camp Kintail to take every measure to prevent the spread of infections and to effectively manage any outbreak of communicable diseases.

## Infection Prevention

Routine practices are methods used regularly to protect all when there is potential to encounter blood or body fluids from others. We cannot always tell if a person has an infection so we must treat all blood and body fluids as potentially infectious.

Body fluids can include feces, urine, vomitus, nasal secretions, sputum, and saliva, whether or not they contain visible blood. Additional precautions beyond routine practices may need to be used with certain fluids. Hand hygiene is the most effective way to prevent the spread of germs from one person to another. Hand hygiene refers to removing or killing germs on the hands as well as maintaining good skin integrity.

There are two methods of removing/killing germs on hands: washing with liquid soap and running water for a minimum of 20 seconds or using an alcohol-based hand rub.

Always wash your hands thoroughly:

- Before preparing or eating foods.
- After using the bathroom.
- After you cough or sneeze.
- After you use a tissue to wipe your nose.
- Before and after providing first aid.
- After coming into contact with someone who is sick.
- After changing diapers.
- After handling blood or body fluids whether or not gloves are worn.
- After handling items soiled with blood or body fluids.
- After gloves are removed.

When hands are not visibly dirty, alcohol-based hand rubs are the preferred method for cleaning hands. Alcohol content for ABHR should be between 70-90%.

Alcohol-based hand rubs (ABHR) kill germs on hands, including temporary illness-causing bacteria that are picked up off doorknobs, light switches, and other surfaces that hands come into contact with. ABHRs should never be refilled or topped up.

Hand washing with soap and running water for 20 seconds must be done when hands are visibly dirty.

Preventing the spread of germs involves some common-sense practices:

- Practice proper respiratory etiquette such as using a disposable tissue or coughing/sneezing into the inside elbow followed by hand hygiene.
- Ensure your vaccinations are up to date.
- Stay home if you are sick, or report to the nurse.
- Always treat blood and body fluids as possibly infectious.
- Never share personal items such as toothbrushes, razors, nail files, water bottles, and lip balm since they may pass on small amounts of blood/saliva from one person to another.
- Dispose of razors carefully in a sharps' container.
- Never re-cap, bend, or break-off used needles.
- Place needles and syringes in a puncture-proof container with a lid.
- If you have a needle stick injury, immediately seek medical attention.
- Wear latex, vinyl, or rubber disposable gloves when handling blood, body fluids, cleaning cuts or scrapes, and when cleaning blood spills.
- Wash hands after removing gloves and discard the gloves in a plastic bag.
- Clean up spills promptly using a disposable absorbent cloth (i.e. paper towel) first, then disinfect the area thoroughly (i.e. freshly mixed one-part bleach to nine parts of water with a contact time of at least 10 minutes).
- Gowns, aprons, masks, protective eyewear and face shields should be worn when procedures may generate splashes of blood or body fluids.
- Handle blood-soiled articles from other people with personal protective equipment such as gloves.

### **Routine Practices at Camp Kintail**

- Handwashing is strongly emphasized in cabin groups, among the staff, by the health care staff, and signs will be posted throughout the campsite.
- Education on proper infection prevention strategies will be provided to Camp Kintail staff and campers by health care staff.
- Hand sanitizer is available on every table at every mealtime.
- Campers and staff are encouraged to sneeze and cough into their sleeves.
- If campers or staff members are sick, they are to be evaluated by the health care staff.
- If a camper or staff member is sick for longer than 24 hours, they will be sent home.
- Kitchen staff will follow all safe food handling measures as found in the Kitchen Manual.
- The health care staff will follow all infection control measures found in the Health Care Manual.
- Protective barriers, such as gloves and face masks, will be available in all first aid kits on site. Staff will be advised to use the training they have received in their Standard First Aid course.
- Any medical waste must be disposed of properly and safely in Feathers and sent to the Hazardous Waste Depot in Holmesville.

### **Additional Practices**

There are times when additional practices are added to the routine practices at Kintail. This may be due to a camper or guest population who is vulnerable or a community or global outbreak of illness. These may include:

- Increased signage, including additional handwashing, cough etiquette, and precaution signs.
- Communication with parents, guests, and groups about the precautions in place and to screen all those coming on site.
- Isolation and pick-up from site for any camper, staff, or guest who exhibits symptoms.
- Extra cleaning and sanitizing done on site, especially in “high-touch” areas, such as bathrooms, door handles, taps, railings, and hospitality areas.
- Any other practices as advised by Huron Perth Public Health.

### **Communicable Disease Management**

- Huron Perth Public Health provides Camp Kintail with a list of reportable diseases. In the case that anyone at Camp Kintail contracts one of these diseases, our health care staff will immediately contact Huron Perth Public Health.
- The camp nurse in conjunction with the Executive Directors or their designates will manage outbreaks at Camp Kintail in the summertime. The Executive Directors or their designates will manage outbreaks the rest of the year.
- At that point, we will follow the instruction of the Health Unit and make all proper decisions regarding communication, closure, and management.
- We will work with Huron Perth Public Health until it is determined that the outbreak is over.
- Refer to Phase 3 of the Crisis Management Plan for Communication of Information.
- Refer to Phase 4 of the Crisis Management Plan for Follow Up and Support.