

STANDARD PRECAUTIONS

I. Policy

SHSU employees will use universal precautions when coming in contact with potentially infectious materials.

II. Definitions.

Standard Precautions-All blood and other potentially infectious materials (OPIM) will be handled as if infectious.

Other potentially infectious materials (OPIM)-includes the following human bodily fluids: semen, vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluid, synovial fluid, pleural fluid, pericardial fluid, peritoneal fluid, amniotic fluid, saliva, any body fluid visibly contaminated with blood, and all body fluids where it is difficult or impossible to differentiate between body fluids. Also includes unfixed human tissue.

Note: Feces, nasal discharge, saliva, sputum, sweat, tears, urine and vomitus meet the

- d. In the laboratory, a centrifuge cover will be used. The cover will be inspected at each use and maintenance will be scheduled as needed, but at least semi-annually.
 - e. In the laboratory, the microscope will be inspected daily and maintenance will be performed as needed, but at least annually.
- 3. Needles and Other Sharps
 - a. Contaminated needles and other sharps will not be bent, recapped, removed, sheared, or purposely broken unless the action is required by the medical procedure. If such action is required, the recapping or removal of the needle must be accomplished by the use of a mechanical device or one handed technique.