

Spills Kit

Checklist and method for cleaning spills

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) *Standards for general practices*, 5th edition, indicator GP4.1D requires all team members to be familiar with the practice’s policy and procedure for the safe management of blood and body fluid spills. Practices need to have a kit readily available to manage spills.

Contents of spills kit (contained in a suitable rigid-walled labelled container (e.g. bucket or plastic sealable box)	Date checked
A laminated guide with a list of spills kit contents and the management procedure	
Nonsterile or utility gloves	
Goggles/face shield	
Masks	
Disposable aprons	
Plastic (clinical and general) waste bags	
Kitty litter, polymerising beads or other absorbent material	
Paper towels	
Scrapers (e.g. two small pieces of cardboard)	
Detergent and disinfectant to be made up when needed or detergent and disinfectant wipes	
Hazard sign to quarantine area	

Method for cleaning spills

Standard precautions apply, including wearing PPE appropriate to the task (e.g. gloves, goggles/face shield and apron, which should be put on away from the spill).

The method for cleaning spills will depend on the volume of the spill and where it occurs.

1. Wipe up and safely remove any solid matter and excess material.
2. If the spill is on a hard surface:
 - a. clean with detergent and water
 - b. dry the surface
 - c. consider further treatment such as disinfection if the site is large or in contact with skin
 - d. dispose of contaminated material including PPE.
3. If the spill is on nonremovable soft fabric or carpet:
 - a. do not use liquid on the spill as this will spread the spill
 - b. use kitty litter, polymerising beads or other absorbent material
 - c. scrape up residue safely without causing material to disperse
 - d. damp-pat surface (do not wipe or scrub) to remove further material
 - e. clean the fabric or carpet with damp cloth (detergent and water) or recommended carpet cleaning agent
 - f. dispose of contaminated material including PPE
 - g. quarantine the area until the fabric or carpet is dry.
4. Use a disinfectant after cleaning if required.
5. Perform hand hygiene after managing the spill.

Whilst all care has been taken in preparing this document, this information is a guide only and subject to change without notice.

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