



## **Brigitte Trust**

### **Universal Hygiene Policy**

#### **1. Introduction**

Employees, volunteers and those we support may be exposed to the risk of air borne and blood borne infections. These infections include, but not exclusively, HIV/Aids, Hepatitis B/ Hepatitis C, MRSA and C. difficile, common cold or 'flu, as well as the risks associated with poor hygiene.

Those with life threatening conditions may also be at greater risk from infections or risk from infection.

#### **2. Aims**

To raise awareness of the risk of infection, promote safe working practices and provide guidance to employees and volunteers.

#### **3. Universal Hygiene Procedures**

Universal Hygiene Procedures consist of a few basic, simple yet highly important procedures that must be followed.

The procedures are expected to be universal in all health and care settings, without exception. They, along with guidance, are as follows:

- Wash your hands frequently and always, but not exclusively, after visiting the toilet, after contact with body fluids, food, cleaning materials, cosmetics or household tasks.
- Avoid wherever possible contact with bodily fluids
- Wear gloves for safety and dispose of them safely
- Any personal wounds (i.e. cuts) must be covered with appropriate bandages; for any significant wound, check with the Area Organiser if it is appropriate for you to continue to provide service
- Check any exposed and visible client' wounds are covered with the appropriate bandages. If they are not:
  - Avoid contact with the wound
  - Contact the person with responsibility for the client's care.

#### **4 Responsibilities**

**4.1** The Trust has a duty of care to employees, volunteers, those we support and those accessing our premises, activities or events.



**4.2** All employees and volunteers are individually responsible to use Universal Hygiene Procedures to protect themselves and those they are in contact with by reducing the possibility of infection.

Date reviewed	November 2015
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