Biohazard Response Spill Kit Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Does the Biohazard Response Spill Kit remove a stain of blood from carpet that is a couple of days old or will it only work on fresh spills? Will it still disinfect the area?
A. Yes, blood can be disinfected in case there is Hepatitis B/C involved as it can live in dried blood up to 7-10 days, you certainly wouldn't want anyone to touch it. It may be necessary to use a spot remover in conjunction with the clean-up kit.

Procedure:
Put on PPE equipment. Spray TB Disinfectant Cleaner Ready-To-Use EPA Regulation No. 1839-83-1677, as directed on the product label on the spot/area so that area is wet. Let set for 10 minutes then use absorbent towels to blot up and put in bucket, depending on what is left. Since it has sat for a couple days already you may need to use a stain remover in conjunction, blot up stain remover with absorbent towels and place in bucket. If stain is still visible it may be necessary to wet the area with a stain remover. Place the absorbent towels on area with some weight on the absorbent towels. Weight on the absorbent towels in conjunction with a stain remover will cause the absorbent towels to act as a wick and absorb the stain.

Q. How do you transport the material to the restroom without spilling, dropping, etc?
A. PPE included in the biohazard response spill kits satisfies OSHA’s bloodborne pathogens’ standard, as well as CDC’s recommendations for cleanup of Norovirus including booties to help prevent transferring the virus to one’s car or home. It should not be necessary or is it recommended to dump bodily fluid spills into a toilet. With each kit there is a disposal process so that you can immediately clean-up and contain along with disposal of the spill at the spill site. The black trash bag can be thrown into your regular trash.

Q. Once you get it to the toilet, how do you dump it to prevent splash-back on the employee or the surrounding environment?
A. Hospitals eliminated the use of “hoppers” (large toilet-like units used to dump body fluids) years ago for this exact reason. Again, it is not recommended that any spill be dumped into the toilet rather use the appropriate disposal process that is included with each kit.

Q. Does the absorbent material in the kit also provide disinfection properties?
A. The intent of the absorbent is to absorb a spill for easy and safe cleanup. Absorb-O-Gel absorbent material is a Polymer with the active ingredient Sodium Polyacrylate (See MSDS). Absorb-O-Gel is not for use as a disinfectant.

Q. If you do dump the spill, would you have to disinfect around and in the toilet due to potential cross-contamination?
A. We would not recommend flushing this down any toilet as a disposal process as it is highly absorbent: one teaspoon of absorbent will absorb 12-16 oz of water.
Q. The purpose of most absorbents is to absorb liquids - what if there is a significant amount of absorbent material that has not been utilized? If dumped into the toilet, will it solidify and clog the plumbing?
A. The most effective and efficient and safest process is to immediately place all contaminated items into the trash bag, red bag or mail back bucket once the clean-up is completed right at the point of initial contamination.

Q. I know the mask in the kit is not an NIOSH N95, but is it rated at all?
A. N95s are a great idea however there are several factors to consider. First, the masks and eye shield are primarily intended for protection from splash and splatter. If the mask has the face shield attached, employees are more likely to use both. The N95 respirators do not have the face shield attached. In addition, the CDC does not specify the need for a particular type of mask be used, such as an N95 respirator, during the clean-up of Norovirus. They simply recommend that a mask be used. Also, to be truly effective, an N95 has to fit properly. If the N95 dome mask is too small or too big airborne particles can get around the mask as easily as with an ear-loop. Since spill kits basically have to contain “one-size fits all” PPE, a “dome” mask is harder to fit to all face sizes, whereas the ear-loop type fits all face sizes better.

Q. Can I use a small spill kit from a first aid supplier? Or do I need a kit of this size?
A. Yes, but they are not recommended as they have incomplete Personal Protective Equipment and inadequate tools for clean up. In order to comply with Standard Precautions, and help protect employees from ALL body fluids during cleanup:

• Face protection must be worn if there is a chance the person could splash or “flick” material into his eyes, nose or mouth during spill cleanup. This should also help protect from aerosols potentially created during the cleaning process.
• Skin must be protected.
• Employee work clothes must be protected as well from contamination
• If material could splatter or flick up into the face, it could also land on an employees clothing.
• Also, remember, hepatitis B can live in dried blood for 7 days – even on someone’s clothing or on their shoes that are worn home.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration states that the personal protective equipment (PPE) chosen should be based upon the type of exposure and quantity of these substances reasonably anticipated to be encountered during the performance of a task or procedure.” “The employer must evaluate the task and type of exposure expected and, based on the determination, select the appropriate personal protective clothing.” Since non-healthcare businesses do not perform the tasks that cause the spill or contamination, it is impossible to anticipate the volume or degree of a spill before it happens. How could anyone predict that a customer would vomit completely into the toilet, or all over the floor? For this reason, one should maintain a spill kit that contains the items that would prepare an employee to be protected regardless of spill volume or degree. If, for example, shoe covers are needed, and not included in the kit, it’s too late once the contamination occurs.

Our Bodily Fluid Spill and Cleanup Kit provides not only cleanup and disposal materials necessary to clean up any spill safely. It also includes all the necessary PPE to protect employees that could encounter many unpredictable situations.
Q. Is it ok to use a mop & bucket to clean up vomit and feces?
A. This practice spreads potential Norovirus throughout the facility, both while the spill is being mopped and later when the mop is used again. (Norovirus is hard to kill, so even if the belief is that the mop has been disinfected…it most likely has not been.).

Q. Is this Biohazard Response Spill kit approved by OSHA? Is the use of spill kits mandatory?
A. No, it is not OSHA approved because OSHA does not have an approval process. Be careful of companies that claim their kits are OSHA approved. Yes, the Biohazard Response Spill kit meets OSHA standards for Personal Protective Equipment. OSHA requires all employers to have the appropriate PPE for employees to clean up biohazard and or bodily fluid spills. See the chart below:

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<tr>
<th>Spill Kit and Components</th>
<th>Justification – Utilizing Standard Precautions</th>
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<tr>
<td>When unsure of the content of the body fluid spill, it should be managed as potentially infectious. Sharps Body Fluid Spill Kit provides cleanup for all anticipated contamination.</td>
<td>1910.1030(d)(1) Under circumstances in which differentiation between body fluid types is difficult or impossible, all body fluids shall be considered potentially infectious materials. (d)(3)(iii) The employer shall ensure that appropriate personal protective…is readily accessible.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Everything is contained in the Sharps Body Fluid Spill Kit.</td>
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<td>Once the cleanup is complete, everything is placed into the provided plastic bag. No one walks through the facility wearing contaminated PPE.</td>
<td>(d)(3)(vii) All PPE shall be removed prior to leaving the work area. (d)(3)(viii) When personal protective equipment is removed it shall be placed in an appropriately designated area or container for storage, washing, decontamination or disposal. (d)(4)(iii)(B)(1)(ii) Constructed to contain all contents and prevent leakage of fluids during handling, storage, transport or shipping;</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Kit contains Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Engineering</td>
<td>(d)(3)(i) Personal protective equipment will be considered &quot;appropriate&quot; only if it does not permit</td>
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<td>Controls that provides protection regardless of the type or quantity of spill.</td>
<td>blood or other potentially infectious materials to pass through to or reach the employee's work clothes, street clothes, undergarments, skin, eyes, mouth, or other mucous membranes under normal conditions of use and for the duration of time which the protective equipment will be used.</td>
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| Non-Latex Nitrile Gloves (hypoallergenic for use by all employees, including those who might have latex sensitivities) – 2 pair | (d)(3)(ix) Gloves shall be worn when...handling or touching contaminated items or surfaces.  
(d)(3)(iii) Hypoallergenic gloves...shall be readily accessible to those employees who are allergic to the gloves normally provided. |
| Mask and Face Shield Combination | (d)(3)(x) Masks in combination with eye protection devices, such as goggles or glasses with solid side shields, or chin-length face shields, shall be worn whenever splashes, spray, spatter, or droplets of blood or other potentially infectious materials may be generated and eye, nose, or mouth contamination can be reasonably anticipated.  
(CDC, 2007): Persons who clean areas heavily contaminated with feces or vomitus may benefit from wearing masks. |
| Apron | (d)(3)(xi) Appropriate protective clothing such as, but not limited to, gowns, aprons, lab coats, clinic jackets, or similar outer garments shall be worn in occupational exposure situations. The type and characteristics will depend upon the task and degree of exposure anticipated. |
| Shoe and Hair Protection | (d)(3)(xii) Surgical caps or hoods and/or shoe covers or boots shall be worn in instances when gross contamination can reasonably be anticipated. |
Q. What is the proper way to clean up a biohazard spill?
A. Biohazard spills such as vomit and diarrhea need to be cleaned up quickly and properly. There are procedures that have to be taken to help ensure the spill has been cleaned up properly without cross-contaminating other areas. Mops and paper towels will not work, so you will need to wear the proper personal protective equipment, use the proper tools to clean up the spills (trash bags,
chemical, scoop, etc.) and understand the right way to dispose of the contaminated material. The details on procedures to clean up blood and non blood (vomit, urine & diarrhea) spills are on our website. These procedures are based on OSHA guidelines and are specific to our Biohazard Response Spill Kit (#50258-91-11).

Q. What type of gloves is in the Biohazard Response Spill kit?
A. Nitrile, 4 mil thickness/medical grade.

Q. Does the TB Disinfectant have kill claim against MRSA?
A. Yes, it has a 3 minute claim against Methicillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) and the rest of the bacteria listed on the label also has 3 minutes, with the exception of Clostridium difficile which has a 1 minute claim. Norwalk and Feline calicivirus has 30 seconds where all other viruses have 10 minutes. There is a 5 minute contact time on tuberculocidal activity against Mycobacterium tuberculosis.

Q. Can the TB Disinfectant Cleaner Ready-To-Use be sold internationally?
A. No, It is not DIN registered for use in Europe, Asia or Canada.