

Biohazard Policy

Optimum Choice recognises that there are times when their employees whilst working with participants, risk exposure to contact with bodily fluids or blood (Biohazards) may occur.

Optimum Choice management understands its obligation to provide all employees with a healthy and safe working environment. The management of exposure to these health issues forms an important component of meeting our obligations in the workplace. These obligations also extend to those who work in participants homes, whilst out in the community, in Optimum Choice facilities or travelling on company business.

Biohazards

Biological hazards, or biohazards are organic substances and / or organisms that may pose a threat to personnel. They can include pathogens, micro-organisms, viruses, toxins, spores and bio-active substances.

Optimum Choice will:

Following a risk assessment, ensure controls are in place to minimise, the exposure to biological hazards, and ensure the take the following precautions are adhered to by their personnel:

- Provide the appropriate PPE (e.g. disposable gloves / masks) as per the risk assessment and control plans
- Provide and update information about the management of biohazards by way of a detailed procedure
- Ensure that biohazard disposal bags, sealable spill kits are to be available to all personnel that require them and are trained in their application

Optimum Choice management shall ensure that risk assessment and participant plan consider the following:

- Likelihood of exposure.
- Possible routes of transmission.
- Factors contributing to exposures (e.g. availability of personal protective equipment, nature of work, waste disposal practices).
- Individual risk factors for each worker (e.g. medical conditions that cause damaged / broken skin such as dermatitis or eczema).
- Current risk control measures and the potential need for new risk control measures.

All personnel shall be required to comply with this policy and any approved risk assessment at all times.

Date 28/03/2020