

## INFECTION CONTROL

OPS.505

Approved By:	Chief Operations Officer	Adopted Date:	N/A
Distribution:	All ODCHC Staff	Revision Date(s):	05/00, 03/13

### PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Ensure that all employees of ODCHC are appropriately informed, relative to their job functions, regarding infection control issues;
- Ensure that ODCHC maintains the highest standards of infection control.

### POLICY:

1. *Asepsis*: All staff shall receive basic instruction in the principles of asepsis, including modes of pathogen transmission, hand washing principles and the separation of clean and dirty work areas.
2. *Bloodborne Pathogens*: ODCHC shall adopt a Bloodborne Pathogens Policy and Exposure Control Plan that meets current OSHA standards. Refer to OPS.506 for a complete copy of the policy.
3. *Communicable Disease Reporting*: The health center maintains a current list of diseases and conditions reportable under Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations. All health care practitioners shall be diligent in the reporting of known or suspected cases of reportable diseases and conditions.
4. *Sterilization Techniques*: All employees responsible for sterilization of instruments shall be instructed in proper sterilization techniques and sterilization instructions shall be clearly posted in the sterilization area. It is the responsibility of each site's Nurse Coordinator to ensure that proper sterilization techniques are followed. Refer to CLN.010 for current Sterilization policies.
5. *Tuberculosis Control*: Tuberculosis is a contagious airborne disease with serious health implications for health care staff. The following plan is intended to minimize the potential impact of tuberculosis on employees:
  - Education regarding tuberculosis transmission, prevention and control is provided to all staff upon employment, and annually thereafter. Training includes information on the risks of exposure to tuberculosis and risk reduction methods.
  - Patients who are coughing repeatedly and/or who are known to have active tuberculosis are asked to wear face masks and are escorted, when possible, to a private room.
  - Health center ventilation systems are maintained in good working order.
  - All staff receive intradermal PPD skin tests upon employment and annually thereafter, unless medically contraindicated. Skin test results are maintained for audit purposes.
  - All positive skin tests are followed up and treatment is given per current public health protocols.

#### Attachments:

*Title 17 CCR 2500 Reportable Diseases and Conditions*

*Staff Member PPD Status Record*

#### Additional References:

*CLN.010 Sterilization*

*OPS.506 Bloodborne Pathogens*

Approved:



Cheyenne Spetzler  
Chief Operations Officer