

WOLFEBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT

SOP 6.16

Date Issued: 12/27/2019

Review: 03/25/2021

[Note: This written directive is for the internal governance of the Wolfeboro Police Department and, as provided by RSA 516:36, is not intended and should not be interpreted to establish a higher standard of care in any civil or criminal action than would otherwise be applicable under existing law.]

By Order of:
Dean J. Rondeau, Chief of Police

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Policy To reduce risks and protect members from contracting a communicable disease.

Purpose To cover issues dealing with:
Definitions Exposure Control
Post Exposure Procedure

Definitions

Airborne Disease: spread by contact with droplets of the disease producing organism which have been expelled into the air by cough, sneeze or direct contact of respiratory secretions.

Biohazard: Biological material, especially if infectious, that poses a threat to humans and/or their environment.

Body Fluids: Fluids that the body makes or replenishes including, but not limited to blood, semen and secretions.

SOP 6.16
Communicable Diseases

Communicable Diseases: A disease that can be transmitted from one person to another, such as:

1. Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome. (AIDS)
2. Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infection.
3. Chickenpox.
4. Diphtheria.
5. Haemophilus Influenza Infection.
6. Hepatitis, A, B, Non A, and Non B.
7. Malaria.
8. Measles (Rubeola).
9. Meningococcal Disease.
10. Pertussis.
11. Rabies.
12. Rubella.
13. Syphilis.
14. Tuberculosis.

Contaminated: Contact with bodily fluids, including those that may be airborne.

Immunization: procedure by which a person is rendered immune

Medical Referral Consultant: An employee’s primary healthcare physician or an area hospital.

Potential Carrier: All persons need to be considered.

Source Individual: Any person whose blood, body fluids, airborne secretions, tissue or organs were specifically identified as the source of exposure.

Unprotected Exposure: Instances of direct mouth to mouth resuscitation, commingling of blood or other potential infectious material of a source individual and public safety worker, which is capable of transmitting a communicable disease or any other such type of exposure.

Exposure Control

The following procedures shall be utilized by members of the department for safety.

Immunization	Vaccinations – provided at no cost Hepatitis B Rabies
Gloves, disposable	Shall be carried by officers and utilized when <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - providing first aid - handling items contaminated by body fluids - cleaning up bodily fluids
Disposable surgical gowns & shoe coverings	For processing crimes scenes or areas that is likely to be soiled by bodily fluid – when practical Contaminated protective equipment shall be placed in a designated container for disposal

SOP 6.16
Communicable Diseases

Washing	If contact is made, wash affected areas with antiseptic cleaner under warm, running water ASAP. If not available, use an antiseptic hand cleaner with antiseptic towelettes or clean paper towels. Wash again when practical.
Uniforms	If contaminated – remove ASAP They must be professionally cleaned – at no time taken home to be cleaned They must be notified of the contamination Dispose of and replace if cannot be cleaned
Cleaning	Booking areas & cruisers that may be contaminated are to be cleaned with a solution of: One-part sodium hypochlorite (household bleach) and ten parts waters
Searching	Care should be exercised when searching pockets, vehicles & places with your hands
Needles	Do not attempt to recap needles or syringes – Must be placed in a designated container
Recognition of Airborne Disease	Coughing, mucus and blood are possible signs of tuberculosis – use an adequately vented area , officer shall wear mask and limit duration of exposure

Any inquires should be made to NH Division of Public Health Services Bureau of Disease Control

Post Exposure

Member shall:

- Report to Hospital as soon as possible.
- File a Workmen Compensation Report within 48 hours.
- If the source individual is known, notify the hospital and request that a test for HIV be conducted. (if the person consents)
- If the source is diagnosed to have a communicable disease which is transmitted by unprotected exposure under RSA 141 G:5, the medical facility must notify the member, verbally, within 48 hours & in writing within 73 hours.
- Any information received by the department is confidential.

Source Infected

Member shall

- Be medically evaluated and treated.
- Counseled regarding any risk.
- If tested negative – should be retested as deemed necessary by a physician.
- If source cannot be identified – appropriate follow –up shall be handled on a case by case basis.

SOP 6.16
Communicable Diseases

Reports

- Whenever exposure is made as soon as possible. (within 24 hours)
- Notification to the chief of the circumstances within 48 hours.
- On the job injury report as soon as possible.