

THE AQUATIC WATCH

Updates on Key Issues Facing the Aquatic Industry

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Disinfection Guidelines For Bodily Fluid Spills on Pool Surfaces (March 2007)

Bodily fluid spills on pool deck surfaces are a potential source for Recreational Water Illnesses and therefore immediate attention is required when these spills occur. A list of approved disinfectants for bodily fluid spills can be found on the United States Environmental Protection Agency's website at www.epa.gov/oppad001/chemregindex.htm. The Center for Disease Control recommends that a homemade bleach solution be used to disinfect surface areas contaminated with bodily fluids. The following sets forth the "solution recipe" and procedure recommended by the Center for Disease Control.

Bleach Disinfecting "Solution Recipe"

9 parts cool water

1 part household bleach

Add the household bleach to the water. Gently mix the solution.

Clean Up Procedure Using Bleach Solution

1. Block off the area of the spill from the patrons until clean-up and disinfection is complete.
2. Put on disposable gloves to protect hands.
3. Wipe up spill using paper towels or absorbent material and place in plastic garbage bag.
4. Gently pour bleach solution onto all contaminated areas of the surface.
5. Allow the bleach solution to remain on the contaminated area for 20 minutes.
6. Wipe up the remaining bleach solution.
7. All non-disposable cleaning materials (mops, scrub brushes, etc.) should be disinfected by saturating with bleach solution and air-dried.
8. Remove gloves and place in plastic garbage bags with all soiled cleaning materials.
9. Double-bag and securely tie-up plastic garbage bags and discard.
10. Thoroughly wash hands with soap and water.