



# GENERAL HYGIENE

## WHAT IS DIFFERENT?

You likely already have practices in place for cleaning and sanitizing items used in your program. The requirements now ask that some of these unwritten practices be developed and documented with advice from public health professionals. Another difference in the CNCR is the change in language from “universal precautions” to “routine practices.” This new language reflects current usage by health professionals. In view of potential changes in those practices and the variety of possible circumstances in which they might be used, the requirements ask that “additional practices” be followed in keeping with advice from health professionals.

The new requirements also ask that when parents diaper their own children, you ensure that they have access to hygienic diapering procedures.

## WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

It is important to follow advice from health professionals when developing hygiene procedures to ensure that they reflect current understanding of the best way to protect the health of the children and staff in the CNC program. Documented practices help make certain that everyone is aware of your expectations and that staff will be better able to follow them in a consistent manner. The change in language related to handling bodily fluids also reflects the importance of adhering to current professional practice.

## IMPLEMENTATION

- Review your current written procedures to ensure they are appropriate.
- Contact your public health office and other sources of health information from professionals to gather information on hygiene procedures.
- When you have completed your procedures, train all CNC Staff to follow them and emphasize the importance of hand washing.
- Consider whether parents diaper their own children. If so, ensure that they have access to hygienic diapering procedures.
- Establish schedules for cleaning on a regular basis and be prepared to clean at other times, as needed.

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### Special Considerations for CNC in Temporary Spaces

- Ensure toys, materials and equipment that you find in the space meet the standards of your hygiene practices. If they do not, clean them or remove them from reach of the children.
- Ensure any toys and materials that you bring with you have been cleaned and or disinfected, as necessary.
- Ensure that any toys and materials used in a mobile program are cleaned and sanitized or disinfected before they are put away for use at a later time.

## SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

### WEB RESOURCES

- Health Canada - [http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/contact/phu/phuloc\\_mn.html](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/contact/phu/phuloc_mn.html)

## REQUIREMENTS

### CHILD HEALTH

#### 4-3 HYGIENE

##### General Procedures for Hygiene

- a. The CNC program follows written hygiene procedures developed with advice from health professionals, in relation to:
  2. Cleaning, sanitizing or disinfecting, the following as applicable,
    - C. Play materials and equipment;
    - D. Washrooms, and diapering and toileting equipment; and
    - E. Any other items with which children come into contact;
  2. Hand washing; and
  3. Routine practices and any additional precautions to be taken in the event of contamination with bodily fluids.

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- b. Hand washing procedures are posted or otherwise available to CNC staff.

### Diapering

- c. When care is provided to a child who requires diapering, diapering procedures are posted or otherwise available to CNC staff.
- d. When parents diaper their own children, the ISO ensures that they have access to information about hygienic diapering procedures.