



**Indiana State
Department of Health**
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Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.
Governor

Judith A. Monroe, M.D.
State Health Commissioner

DATE: November 10, 2009

TO: Executive Board, Indiana State Department of Health

FROM: James F. Howell, DVM, MPH, DACVPM, Assistant Commissioner
Public Health and Preparedness Commission 

SUBJECT: Preliminary Adoption of Amendments to the Universal Precautions Rule 410 IAC 1-4 (LSA Doc. #09-810)

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), Surveillance and Investigation Division, requests the Executive Board, at the Board's November 10, 2009 meeting, to preliminarily adopt an amendment to the administrative rule for Universal Precautions (410 IAC 1-4) to incorporate best health care practices in order to provide greater protections to the public.

The Indiana Administrative Code (410 IAC 1-4-8(a)) currently requires all covered individuals and health care workers to comply with the requirements imposed under the Indiana occupational safety and health administration's bloodborne pathogens standards. The amendment to the rule will include, by reference, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guideline for Hand Hygiene in Health-Care Settings and the WHO Guidelines on Hand Hygiene in Health Care ("Hand Hygiene Guidelines").

The incorporation of both Hand Hygiene Guidelines is intended to compliment OSHA's employee protections with public health's focus on donor-to-donor contact, specifically in the blood and plasma donation industry. The Hand Hygiene Guidelines recommend that glove use must be implemented regardless of the type of setting or the resources available and that gloves are meant to be disposable and for single use only. This addresses public health concerns that the failure to change or remove gloves between direct contact with multiple individuals or after contact with inanimate objects may contribute to transmission of organisms and that glove use does not replace the need for proper hand hygiene or hand washing between glove changes. Therefore, the Division proposes preliminary adoption of this rule change.