

- pathogens in newborn infants - A cohort study. *Pediatr Infect Dis J* 1987; 6 : 1026-1031.
14. Chowdhury P, Srivastava G, Agarwal DS et al. Bacteriological study of neonatal infection. *Indian Pediatr* 1985; 12 : 459-469.
 15. Guha DK, Jaspal D, Das K et al. Outcome of neonatal septicaemia - a clinicobacteriological profile. *Indian Pediatr* 1978; 15 : 423-427.
 16. Monga K, Fernandez A, Deodhar L. Changing bacteriology in neonatal septicemia. *Indian J Pediatr* 1986; 53 : 505-508.
 17. Bhakoo ON. Prognosis and treatment of neonatal septicaemia - A clinicobacteriological study of hundred cases. *Indian Pediatr* 1974; 11 : 519-527.

HIV INFECTION CONTROL IN HEALTH CARE SETTINGS

Precautions in relation to blood and other body fluids

Since blood and other body fluids are capable of transmitting HIV and other infectious agents, nurses and doctors should always treat all blood and body fluids as if they were infectious.

Handwashing. Hands and other parts of the body that have been contaminated with blood or body fluids should be washed thoroughly with soap and water.

Gloves and other attire. Wear gloves of suitable quality for all direct contact with blood and body fluids. When gloves are not available, other methods should be used to prevent direct contact with blood: for example, forceps, a towel, gauze or, if these are unavailable, even a leaf may be employed to hold a bloodstained needle or syringe. During procedures in which there may be splashing or suspensions of blood (e.g., during surgery or childbirth), the eyes, nose, and mouth should be protected with a face shield or mask and glasses, and gowns or aprons should be worn.

Needle-stick and other sharp injuries. Methods should be devised to reduce the risk of needle-stick and other injuries from sharp instruments, which should always be handled with extreme care.

Mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. Although HIV has been recovered from saliva, there is no conclusive evidence that saliva is involved in HIV transmission. Mouth to mouth mucus extractors should be replaced if possible, by electrical hand-operated or foot-operated suction machines.

Isolation. If the precautions described are taken, isolation of HIV infected patients is not necessary unless they have other infections for which isolation is indicated.

Isolate the infection, not the patient.

Abstracted from:
World Health Forum 1990; Vol. 11; No. 4, 392-393.