Purpose:

To ensure individuals with blood borne medical conditions participate in Special Olympics Manitoba programs safely and fully, the following policy shall be followed.

Policy:

No Accredited Program, or Games Organizing Committee, may exclude or isolate from participation in any Special Olympics training or competition, any individual who is known to be a carrier of a blood-borne contagious infection or virus, or otherwise discriminate against such athlete solely because of that medical condition.

In view of the risk that one or more individuals may have a blood-borne contagious infection or virus, in conducting training and competition events, Accredited Programs and Games Organizing Committees, shall follow so-called “Universal Precautions”, or “Universal Blood and Body Fluid Precautions” for every exposure to any person’s blood, saliva or other bodily fluid.

Universal Precautions

A method of infection control in which all human blood and other bodily fluids are considered infectious for HIV, HBV and other blood borne pathogens, regardless of patient history. It encompasses a variety of practices to prevent occupational exposure, such as the use of personal protective equipment (ppe), disposal of sharp and safe housekeeping. Universal Precautions were developed by the CDC as guidelines and were not enforceable.