

Bed Bugs and other creepy crawlers:



Managing Infestations in the Community Healthcare Environment



CARE TO BE AMAZED



Updated Sep 2010

About SEHC

- A Canadian non-for-profit charitable corporation founded 1908
- Providing nursing, personal support/ homemaking, communication & rehabilitation services
- Dynamic talent team of 4,500
- Deliver 3.3 million homecare visits annually



Risk of Exposure....

- Bed Bugs are only one of several types of infestations we see in the community environment
- Others include:
 - Head lice,
 - scabies,
 - cockroaches and
 - fleas
- Regardless of the type of exposure or infestation, the primary goal is to ensure the protection of our employees and continued service for our clients.



Education

- Education is key
 - Transmission
 - Prevention
 - Personal protective practices
 - Client education



How we educate..

- Face to face power points
- Infection Control Manual
- Practice alerts
- News letters
- Voice Mail messaging
- One on one consultation



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Safety News Flash
Updated September 13, 2010

Practice Alert - Bed Bugs

Over the past few years, there has been a significant increase in reports of bed bug infestations. The myth that bed bugs are only found in shelters is completely false, they can be found almost anywhere in the world where humans have established homes, including hotels, motels, dormitories, apartments, condos, and private homes and even in some public places, such as businesses and offices.

Facts on Bed Bugs:

- Bed Bugs are often carried into a location on objects such as furniture and clothing.
- Anyone can get an infestation of bed bugs; however, vulnerable populations may have a particularly difficult time managing the required treatment and prevention strategies such as the use of a pest control company.
- Bed Bugs do not jump! They are wingless but can travel up to 20 feet in search of a human host. They spend 90% of their time hiding in crevices of floors and walls, bedding, and upholstered furniture and are usually more active at night.
- Bed Bugs are not considered a health hazard and there is not evidence that they transmit blood-borne infectious disease. In some situations, bed bug bites can cause allergic reaction in some people similar to a mosquito bite.

Management of Bed Bugs in Community Client Care:

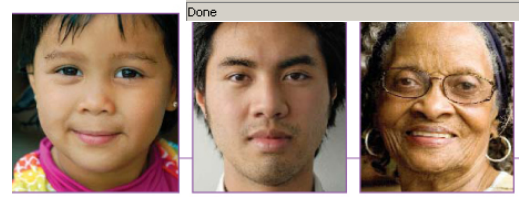
- When bed bugs are suspected, work with CCAC and other agencies in advocating for assistance and resolution in the management and elimination of bed bugs for our vulnerable clients.
- Clients should not be denied service because of bed bugs.
- Educate clients on washing and drying of their belongings if bed bugs are suspected, including bedding, towels, and clothing.
- Encourage vacuuming in all crevices, along baseboards and anywhere near the bed.
- To minimize exposure, community staff should use gowns, gloves and boot covers for client care when bed bugs are suspected.
- Staff should not bring their bags, purse, etc into the home if not necessary. Store in sealable plastic bags if they are needed in the home.
- Avoid putting coats on furniture if at all possible or leave them in the car.

For more information visit: www.toronto.ca/health

[Click here to download the complete practice alert](#)

Type	Name	Modified By
Folder	Hazards	Jeremy Turney
Folder	Practice Alerts	Jeremy Turney
Folder	Safety Talks	Jeremy Turney
Folder	Office Ergonomics	Jeremy Turney
Folder	Infection Control Manual	Jeremy Turney
Folder	Fit Tester Information (Respiratory program)	Jeremy Turney
Folder	Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)	Jeremy Turney
File	09-12 Joint Health and Safety Committee Membership list (Multi-Site)	Jeremy Turney
File	Ontario Industrial Regulation 851 (amend 2007)	Jeremy Turney
File	Ontario Occupational Health and Safety Act (amend 2007)	Jeremy Turney

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Personal Protective Equipment Kits:



Client Care

- Clients are not denied service due to an infestation
- Work with the funder and other community agencies to advocate for client
- Educate clients on prevention, and elimination of bed bugs in home environment



Questions?

