

Infection Control & Equipment Maintenance

Use of Manikins

CPR manikins are necessary when teaching CPR and choking rescue in Safe Sitter®. Follow your Teaching Site's recommendations for infection control and equipment maintenance. Such recommendations should include the following:

- Manikin surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected in a consistent way after each student use and as soon as possible after each course. Instructors should carefully follow all manufacturer recommendations for manikin use and maintenance.
- Instructors and students should practice good hygiene by washing their hands before and after handling manikins.
- Individual face pieces are preferable. If individual face pieces are not available, individual face shields should be used and changed each time a different student uses the manikin. If individual face pieces or shields are not used, adequate cleansing of the manikin between students is necessary.
- Manikins should be inspected routinely for signs of physical deterioration, such as cracks or tears in plastic surfaces, which can make cleaning difficult or impossible. Each manikin's clothing should be washed periodically or if soiled.

Protective Gloves

Body fluids, such as blood, saliva, and urine, can sometimes carry germs that cause diseases. Universal precautions advise you to treat everyone as if he/she were infected. Instructors and students should protect themselves from exposure through the use of protective gloves.

- The use of gloves as a babysitter should be encouraged as the start of a lifelong health habit.
- Teaching sites may choose to use latex free gloves when practicing diaper changes during Child Care Essentials.

- Directions on removing used gloves must be found in Instructor Resources on the Safe Sitter® website.

Equipment

All equipment used in Safe Sitter® courses should be cleaned and stored properly to ensure effective operation of the equipment and to prevent transmission of communicable diseases through contact with the equipment.

- Telephones should be cleaned with a disinfecting wipe.
- Dolls should be checked, making any necessary repairs. Clothing and hair should be washed as needed.
- Disposable diapers should be replaced as needed.
- Toys should be checked, cleaned, repaired, or replaced as needed after each course.