



BASKETBALL
AUSTRALIA

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BLOOD POLICY

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1.0	23 August 2009		First version
1.1	December 2024	Peter Harcourt	Review and updated. New template

1. Purpose

A number of blood-borne viruses have the potential to be transmitted during sporting contact. This policy has been developed by Basketball Australia as a best practice guide for at all levels of competition and to prevent the spread of blood-borne diseases through participation in basketball.

2. Scope and limitations

Referees need to be aware and implement the following policy in relation to the safety of the Basketball court and the risk of viral transmission.

3. Court Safety

As a practical guide the following court safety is to be followed.

3.1 General court safety

- A "Blood Kit" should be situated at the Scoretable during competition games (see Appendix A). The Kit should be used only for the purpose of dealing with spilt blood on the floor or benches.
- If there is blood on the uniform the player should change the uniform immediately. Under no circumstances should a player with wet or dry bloodstains on their uniform be allowed on the court. It will be necessary for teams to carry a spare number uniform to allow a player with blood on the uniform to change the uniform immediately.
- Prohibit a player returning to the court with a blood-stained uniform. Destroy microorganism with a solution of 0.5% bleach and 2% detergent mixed with water and applied for five minutes. (Normal machine washing would be adequate.)
- Blood spilt on the floor or benches should be wiped thoroughly with the bleach and detergent solution.
- If there is blood on the ball, the ball should be replaced.

3.2 During game court safety

- During the game the official shall order any player who is bleeding or has an open wound, to leave the playing court and cause this player to be substituted (see Appendix B).
- Before a player is allowed back into the game the wound should be treated (no further bleeding) and the affected area completely and securely covered.
- A bleeding player who has received treatment, and the affected area covered, may remain in the game at the expense of a team time-out. (As for an injured player.)

3.3 Dealing with bleeding players/blood on surfaces

People tending to bleeding players and blood on surfaces should:

- take precautions so contact with body fluids, particularly blood, or with soiled objects is avoided, even if the risk is low.

- take care to avoid blood from the wounded person coming into contact with skin punctures or cuts, particularly on the fingers, or reaching the eyes or the mucous membranes of the nose or mouth.
- spray the bleach and detergent solution directly onto the spilt surface, then wipe the surface with paper towels.
- always wear latex, disposable surgical gloves in anticipation of contact with body fluids, particularly blood from the nose, mouth or a wound when touching nasal mucous membranes or broken skin (abrasions, dermatitis) or when handling soiled objects. The gloves must be discarded after use.
- place soiled linen, and uniforms into sealed plastic bags, to then be washed in a normal machine-wash process.
- after placing soiled paper towels, surgical gloves, compresses, dressings and bandages into a sealed bag. Destroy or dispose of the bags in garbage disposal bins.
- thoroughly wash hands with a bleach and detergent solution or equivalent hand sanitizer before and particularly immediately after contact with the person being treated, even if gloves have been worn.
- wash all areas that have come into contact with body fluids.
- do not use sponges, especially not to clean several wounded persons in succession.

4. Associated policies/resources

BA Member Protection Policy

Appendix A: Contents of Blood Kit

- One packet of paper hand towels.
- One packet of disposable latex surgical gloves.
- One packet of medium size resealable plastic bags.
- One 1500 ml Spray Bottle with 0.5% bleach and 2% detergent mixed with water. (Bleach is the key ingredient. Standard household bleach is acceptable, but it must not be used past its use by date.) Solutions should only be used if they have been mixed (prepared) that day.

Appendix B: Guidelines for Score-table Officials

When a uniform is changed draw one line through the old number, place the new number beside it, with an asterisk beside the numbers with an explanation at the bottom of the score sheet.

Where Score-table officials observe substantial bleeding or blood on a playing uniform, and the referees have not become aware of the problem, the chairperson is to wait until the next dead ball period before advising the referees.