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Hand Sanitizer at Work During COVID-19

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This presentation is for informational purposes only and does not constitute clinical or legal advice. Follow up with a BCBA/BCBA-D. It is recommended to develop a specific plan for your child or student.

1

Objective

Main Objectives

Increase staff knowledge on the:

- Care
- Dangers,
- Precautions taken when using hand sanitizer near children during covid-19

2

Dangers of Hand Sanitizer

Staff are permitted to use hand sanitizer as long as they are aware of the potential dangers and actively take precautions to avoid these dangers.

Did you know that if a child ingests even a small amount of hand sanitizer it can cause **alcohol poisoning?**

<https://www.cmc.ca>

3

Staff Care When Using Sanitizer

Apply a dime-sized amount and rub hands together until completely dry.

Keep hand sanitizers out of reach of children, stored in a safe place.

Clients are permitted to use sanitizer, but always with adult supervision.

Continue to engage in hand washing when needed throughout the session.

4

Safety Precautions for Clients

Clients are only permitted to use hand sanitizer with adult supervision, staff may want to control the amount of sanitizer put on the clients hands.

Young children may be attracted by the smell and the brightly coloured bottles. Staff should store sanitizer out of sight during session.

Make sure the sanitizer dries completely before a client touches their face or their food - ingestion may be toxic.

Extra precautions should be taken for clients that engage in excessive hand licking, or any behaviours that may increase their risk of ingesting sanitizer.

Using a cap instead of a pump topper may prevent ease of access for clients.

Hand sanitizer should never be left out where a client may access it.

5

Storage of Hand Sanitizer

All Sanitizer must be stored out of reach and out of site from clients.

This may include a zipped or enclosed bag/object that is then placed into a bin or on a shelf in your workspace.

Staff may keep their sanitizer in their purse/backpack as long as the bag is zipped shut and not accessible to the client

6

What to Do in an Emergency

If a Client Ingests Hand Sanitizer, Staff Should Immediately:

Call a poison control center & follow their directives.

Do not wait for symptoms to develop.

If a client is having troubles breathing or other health related abnormalities, they should immediately call 911 – before poison control if necessary.

7

Active Student Responding

1. Hand Sanitizer is not:

- a) Permitted for use at work as long as the proper precautions are taken
- b) To be stored in a sealed bag or enclosed object
- c) Permitted for use without adult supervision
- d) Poisonous to children when ingested

8

Active Student Responding

2. Which is NOT a safety precaution when using hand sanitizer at

- a) Keeping it stored in an enclosed bag
- b) Providing adult supervision when using sanitizer on a client
- c) Ensuring the sanitizer is dry before allowing the client to touch their food
- d) Leaving the sanitizer on the table so the client or staff can use it whenever needed

9

Active Student Responding

3. If your client has ingested hand sanitizer but is not presenting symptoms you should:

- a) Call 911
- b) Call poison control
- c) Continue as usual
- d) Monitor them for changes

10

Thank You!

Remember to always be cautious when using hand sanitizer, we appreciate everyone's effort to work together to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and maintain a safe working and learning environment for staff and clients.

11

References

<https://www.cps.ca/blog-blogue/hand-sanitizers-promoting-safe-use-by-children>

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Public Services Health and Safety Association | COVID-19: Precautions When Working As A Social & Community Services Worker (pshsa.ca)

Windsor-Essex CDIP -- Planning -- Safe_Return_to_School_Toolkit_6_2_17_2_2020_.pdf (cviamonde.ca)

12

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