

BATHING AND SHOWERING SUPERVISION OF PERSONS SUPPORTED POLICY

The health, safety and well being of persons supported by Community Living-Central Huron is a major concern of the Agency's Management and Board of Directors. To ensure the safety and well being of persons supported when bathing and showering, the appropriate level of supervision required will be documented in writing for all persons who receive 24 hour support by the Agency.

Agency Staff will be required to abide by Community Living-Central Huron's Bathing and Showering for Persons Supported Policy and Procedures. Non-compliance with the Bathing and Showering Supervision of Persons Supported Policy is subject to discipline, up to and including dismissal from Community Living-Central Huron.

Related Policies:

- Philosophy Community Living-Central Huron (A-001)
- Guiding Principles (A-002)
- Confidentiality Policy (A-003)
- Privacy Policy (A-004)
- Interpretation (B-001)
- Volunteer Policy (B-007)
- Accessibility Policy (B-009)
- Duty of Care Policy (B-010)
- Code of Conduct (B-011)
- Individual Welfare/Rights Policy (C-001)
- Behavioural Support Policy (C-002)
- Complaint/Feedback Policy and Procedures for Persons Supported (C-003)
- Abuse Policy (C-004)
- Use of Physical Restraints Policy (C-005)
- Serious Occurrence Policy (C-006)
- Communication Book (C-007)
- Individual Support Policy for Persons Receiving Service (C-009)
- Orientation for People Supported (C-011)
- Medical Care for Persons Supported Policy (C-012)
- Inventory, Personal Belongings of Persons Supported Policy (C-013)
- Health and Safety Policy Statement (D-001)
- Medication Policy Statement (D-002)
- Emergency Policy (D-003)
- Bullying, Harassment and Workplace Violence Policy and Procedures (D-007)
- Preventative Maintenance Policy (D-009)
- Musculoskeletal Disorders Awareness Policy (D-010)
- First Aid Policy and Procedures (D-011)
- Working Alone Policy (D-012)
- Infection Control Policy and Procedures (D-013)
- Hazard/Risk Policy and Procedures (D-014)
- Health and Safety Orientation Policy (D-015)
- Location Health and Safety Representatives Policy (D-016)
- Sharps Policy and Procedures (D-018)
- Manual Handling Policy (D-019)

- Slips, Trips and Falls Prevention Policy (D-020)
- Workplace Inspection Policy (D-021)
- Lifts, Transfers and Physical Assistance Policy (D-023)
- Incident/Accident Investigation Policy (D-024)
- General Policy NO. 2 (E-001)
- Hiring Policy (E-002)
- Police Record Check (E-003)
- Employee and Volunteer Orientation Policy (E-005)
- Professional Development/Training Policy (E-006)
- Individual Consultation Policy (E-007)
- Employee Performance Appraisal Policy (E-008)
- Personal Property Damage Reimbursement (E-010)
- Employee Performance Standards (E-011)
- Disciplinary Policy (E-012)
- Sexual Harassment Policy (E-013)
- Work References (E-014)
- Early and Safe Return to Work (E-016)
- Medication Policy and Procedures Manual

Procedures for Bathing and Showering Supervision of Persons Supported

Review of Policy:

Community Living-Central Huron (CL-CH) believes the health, safety and well being of persons supported is a major concern. To ensure the safety and well-being of persons supported when bathing and showering the appropriate level of supervision is required and is to be specified in writing. Therefore, CL-CH has developed policies and procedures to address the area of bathing and showering for persons who receive 24 hour support from the Agency.

Procedures:

- Prior to CL-CH initiating support, the determination of bathing and showering supervision will be discussed with the person to be supported and other significant individuals, as appropriate, such as: family, Developmental Services Ontario (DSO), medical professionals to determine what, if any, bathing and showering supervision is required. The area of water temperature will be considered as part of the determination. The outcome of the determination will be documented.
- Should bathing/showering supervision be required, a bathing/showering protocol will be developed prior to support initiation and signed by all parties who participated in the determination, including the person supported. Bathing/showering protocols must be specific to address the level of supervision required and provide support details when supervision is required. Refer to attached Bathing/Showering Protocol Example.
- For water temperature protocols, consideration to the following safeguards will occur:
 - The use of control valves for the water temperature not to exceed 49°C (120.2°F);
 - Staff testing the water by hand, palm down, continue to immerse into water if comfortable;
 - Staff testing the water with a thermometer prior to person supported bathing/showering.
- Staff will complete the Residential Health and Safety Daily Checklist to document water temperature. Staff are to contact their Supervisor/Pager within one (1) hour, if the water temperature exceeds 49°C.
- Individuals supported would refrain from independently using hot water until such time as a qualified professional can inspect and ensure the water temperature is below 49°C. Staff will write in red, in the Communication Book, and inform individuals supported.
- Bathing/showering protocols will be kept in the person supported file. Protocols will be reviewed at orientation for newly hired Staff and reviewed by Staff on a minimum annual basis and at any time revisions are made.
- All persons supported by CL-CH will be expected to participate in a Person Directed Plan on an annual basis. The area of bathing/showering is addressed on the Personal Plan checklist and therefore will be reviewed, as to the level of supervision required.
- Should the needs of persons supported change, an assessment will occur, as outlined in the first bullet point. Consideration to the following areas will be given:
 1. Seizure activity;
 2. Inability to keep head above water unsupported;
 3. Inability to bathe without any mechanical support;
 4. Inability to understand potential risks associated with bathing/showering.
- Respect to persons supported privacy will be given. Options, such as curtains may be used to ensure the necessary supervision is provided and the person's privacy is respected.

Level of Supervision

1. Full Supervision: Staff never leave the washroom due to safety concerns
2. Partial: Identify supervision required for safety
3. No Supervision: Independent (no safety concerns)

Bathing/Showering Protocol Example

Person Supported: Jane Smith

Level of Supervision required: Partial: Requires supervision to adjust the water temperature and to exit the tub

Support details/task analysis:

1. Get the bath water ready (not to exceed 49°C) for Jane and let her know when it's ready. Jane will independently undress and go in the bathtub.
2. Remind Jane you will leave her in the bath and come back in 15 minutes to help her wash her hair. Jane is independent in washing her body.
3. Return in 15 minutes and pour shampoo on Jane's hair and let her know she can now scrub her hair. Rinse Jane's hair with the cup that is in the bathtub. Jane will lean over, as you run the tap with warm water (not to exceed 49°C) and rinse her hair using the cup.
4. Unplug the bathtub.
5. Physically assist Jane to get out of the tub.
6. Jane will independently dry herself and dress herself.

Names and signatures of who participated in the development of the Bathing/Showering Protocol:

Signature/Title

Date

Signature/Title

Date

Original: To person supported file after Staff distribution
Copy to: Relevant Supervisor