

## Cleaning and Disinfection Guide for Health Care Facilities

Surface/Object	Procedure	Frequency	Disinfectant Type
Clinic/Patient Care Spaces: - Examining tables - Baby weigh scales - Baby change tables - Beds, Bedrails - Crib - Call bells	1. <b>Clean</b> with a hospital grade detergent solution or wipe. 2. <b>Rinse</b> with warm, clean water. 3. <b>Disinfect</b> with a low level disinfectant as per manufacturer's instructions.	Between patients and when visibly soiled	Low level <i>*phenols not to be used on toys</i>
High Touch Surfaces: - Toilets - Sinks/Taps/faucets - Water coolers - Door knobs/handles - Handrails - Countertops - Tables/Chairs - Phones/Computers - Other common items	4. Allow to <b>air dry</b> .	Daily and/or when visibly soiled	
Toys * Toys should be non-porous and not plush ** Toys should be removed during outbreaks			
- Walls - Windows - Blinds/Curtains	- Clean with a hospital grade detergent solution. - Fabrics should be laundered	Monthly or when soiled	No disinfection required
- Non Absorbent Floors	- Clean with a hospital grade detergent solution	Daily and/or when visibly soiled	No disinfection required
- Carpets - Upholstery (sofas)	- Vacuum, and steam clean as necessary * Use a vacuum equipped with HEPA filtration	Daily and/or when visibly soiled	No disinfection required
Laundry	- Launder linens using detergent and dry on the high heat setting. - Linens soiled with large quantities of organic material require pre-treating to remove the material. - Launder heavily soiled linens separately and add bleach to bleach tolerant materials	After each use	—

**When blood / body fluids spills occur on any of the above surfaces or objects, refer to your Nursing Procedures for specific cleaning and disinfection instructions.**

***Please consult with your Nurse in Charge or Environmental Public Health Officer.***

**During an outbreak, thorough environmental cleaning and disinfection with a disinfectant that has demonstrated effectiveness against the specific organism is required. Increasing the disinfectant level may also be required.**

***Please consult with your Nurse in Charge or Environmental Public Health Officer.***

**\*\* CLEANING AGENTS AND DISINFECTANTS USED IN HEALTHCARE FACILITIES MUST HAVE A DIN (DRUG IDENTIFICATION NUMBER) AND LABELLED AS BROAD-SPECTRUM VIRUCIDE. MAKE SURE TO FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS ON THE LABEL\*\***

### Disinfectant Classifications

Low Level	Intermediate Level	High Level
Low level disinfectants are effective at killing vegetative bacteria and enveloped viruses.  They are used on non-critical items such as work surfaces, countertops, and other environmental surfaces.  They are often found in common household cleaning products, with one of the following active ingredients: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quaternary ammonium (eg.) Lysol</li> <li>• Phenols <i>*not to be used in nurseries or on toys</i> (eg.) Pinesol</li> <li>• 100 ppm chlorine solution = ½ tsp 5.25% household bleach per one litre of water (eg.) Chlorox liquid bleach</li> <li>• 0.5% Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide</li> </ul>	Intermediate level disinfectants are effective for killing vegetative bacteria, enveloped viruses, and fungi.  They are typically used on non-critical items such as work surfaces.  Examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5000 ppm chlorine solution = 1 part 5.25% household bleach to 9 parts water</li> <li>• 70-95% Alcohol</li> <li>• CaviWipes</li> </ul>	High level disinfectants are effective at killing vegetative bacteria, enveloped and non-enveloped viruses, fungi and mycobacteria. They <b>are not</b> effective at killing spores.  They are used for semi-critical and critical items, such as surgical tools/equipment, and are not used for general cleaning purposes.  Examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• &gt;2% Gluteraldehyde</li> <li>• 6% Hydrogen peroxide</li> </ul>

**\*\* Please follow manufacturer's instructions for disinfectant preparation**

**For further information about the handling and use of disinfectants please contact your Environmental Public Health Officer (EPHO)**

**Edmonton (780) 495-4409**

**Calgary (403) 299-3939**

## Cleaning and Disinfectant Products

Cleaning product labels must clearly indicate the following information:

- DIN number
- Product name, clearly labelled
- Quantitative statement of ingredients
- Intended use
- Area and site of use
- Directions for use, including compatible surfaces/instruments
- Dilution procedure, if required
- Mode of application
- Wet contact time
- Rinsing instructions, if required
- Temperature for use and storage
- Appropriate precautionary symbols and statements
- First aid instructions
- Expiry date

Important considerations:

- Select the correct product for the intended task (e.g. cleaning or disinfecting)
- Use approved cleaning solutions and disinfectants
- Check the expiry date prior to use
- The presence of organic soil reduces the effectiveness of disinfectants. Use a two-step process for surfaces that are visibly soiled. Use one wipe to clean and another wipe to disinfect.
- Store all disinfectants out of the reach of children and confused individuals
- Ensure manufacturer's recommended wet-contact time is achieved for proper disinfection
- Cleaning and disinfecting products must have a Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for staff to refer to at all times and labels must be clearly marked
- Wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as required for cleaning and disinfecting medical devices and equipment
- Do not use two different types of cleaning/disinfecting products on the same equipment/environmental surface as the chemicals may react with each other (e.g. accelerated hydrogen peroxide products and quaternary ammonia products)

Adapted: Alberta Health Services (February 2016). Infection Prevention and Control Community-Based Services Resource Manual