Top 10 Tips for Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection

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Objectives

- Review key messages about cleaning and disinfection of environment
- Provide strategies on effective cleaning and disinfection
Tip # 1

Clean surface/item first before disinfecting

- Cleaning *physically removes* foreign material
- Disinfection *kills* most microorganisms
- Presence of organic material will alter activity of disinfectant
Tip # 2

Follow the order of cleaning

- Work from clean to dirty
  - Example: cleaning resident’s room before bathroom

- Work from high to low areas
  - Example: cleaning table tops then floors
Tip # 3

Know how often to clean

- Frequency depends on:
  - High-touch vs low-touch surface
  - Activity taking place in the area
  - Type of pathogen involved
  - Probability of contamination

- Increase frequency of cleaning during outbreaks
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Risk Score</th>
<th>Risk Type</th>
<th>Minimum Cleaning Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>High Risk</td>
<td>Clean after each case/event/procedure and at least twice per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Clean additionally as required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-6</td>
<td>Moderate Risk</td>
<td>Clean at least once daily</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Clean additionally as required (e.g., gross soiling)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-3</td>
<td>Low Risk</td>
<td>Clean according to a fixed schedule</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Clean additionally as required (e.g., gross soiling)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee, p.135
Tip # 4

Focus on high-touch surfaces and items

- Frequently touched by hands
  - Examples: call bells, bedrails, door handles, telephones, ABHR dispensers

- Requires more cleaning and disinfection

- Risk of contamination is higher
Tip # 5
Select the right product

- Active ingredient must be an appropriate hospital grade disinfectant
- Appropriate for the surface
- Should be effective against pathogen involved
- Read label claims
CaviWipesXL Disinfecting Towelettes are non-woven disposable towelettes pre-saturated with CaviCide®. CaviWipesXL are intended for use in healthcare settings such as hospitals, dental offices, laboratories, clinics, ophthalmic offices and veterinary facilities. CaviWipesXL are effective against the following microorganisms on hard, non-porous surfaces when used as directed:

- Mycobacterium tuberculosis var: bovis (BCG)
- Staphylococcus aureus
- Pseudomonas aeruginosa
- Salmonella choleraesuis
- Trichophyton mentagrophytes
- Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)
- Vancomycin Resistant Enterococcus faecalis (VRE)
- Hepatitis B Virus (HBV)*
- Herpes Simplex Virus Types 1 and 2*
- Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV-1)*

**Active Ingredients:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ingredient</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disobutyldiphenoxethoxyethanol dimethyl benzyl ammonium chloride</td>
<td>0.28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isopropanol</td>
<td>17.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INERT INGREDIENTS†</td>
<td>82.52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
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</table>

† Does not include the weight of the dry towelette.

KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN

CAUTION: See other panel for additional precautions statements.
Tip # 6
Use products appropriately

- Follow manufacturer’s instructions for:
  - Correct dilution
  - Contact time

- Contact time = length of time disinfectant must remain wet on a surface for efficacy

- Do not top-up liquids
**Tip # 7**

Avoid generating aerosols

- Place soiled items in bins – do not throw

- Tie up waste bags without compressing air

- Keep microfiber mop in contact with floor at all times

- Do not shake mops or cloths
Tip # 8
Change cleaning cloths

• When going from one resident space to another

• After cleaning a heavily soiled area e.g. bathroom

• Avoid re-dipping into cleaning solution i.e. double-dipping

• Sometimes it is necessary to use multiple cloths for each space
Tip # 9

Conduct terminal cleaning when required

- Refers to discharge or transfer cleaning

- Includes:
  - Removing all dirty/used/disposable items
  - Removing curtains before starting to clean the room; replacing it in the end
  - Discarding toilet paper, paper towels, and toilet brush
  - Discarding all personal care items e.g. soap, tooth paste, lotions

- May also be done when additional precautions (contact, droplet, airborne) are discontinued.
Tip # 10
Conduct audits

• Purpose of audit:
  – Measures how well we are cleaning the environment
  – Provides feedback to staff regarding areas of good performance and areas for improvement

• Objective and transparent process

• Most effective when both management and frontline staff are involved
References

Best Practices for Environmental Cleaning for Prevention and Control of Infections
In All Health Care Settings - 2nd edition

Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee (PIDAC)


Environmental Cleaning Top 10 Best Practices

Source: www.healthunit.org/professionals/resources/2013_environmental_cleaning.pdf

Peel Health
Activities

Activity #1: Watch a skit and complete an audit

Activity #2: Come out and play... *Jeopardy*!

Activity #3: “Pin the tail on the dirty” by identifying the high touch surfaces/objects
# Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE NUMBERS</th>
<th>ACTIVITY STATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1, 2 and 3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 and 5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 and 7</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 and 9</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 and 11</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 and 13</td>
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