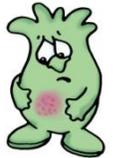


Quick Reference: Environmental Cleaning

How to clean equipment and surfaces, when to clean, what to use

Visibly Soiled surfaces:

1. **Scrub the surface** with a cleaner/detergent or a disinfectant that contains a cleaner/detergent. Wear gloves!
2. **May need to rinse** (check label). Will NOT need to rinse if using a wipe that contains both a detergent and a disinfectant.
3. **Disinfect and allow surface to air-dry**, using a fresh wipe or cloth. Check label for amount of “wet” contact time needed. Usually 60 seconds of wet contact time is adequate to disinfect most environmental surfaces if the bacteria is not a spore former. With *C. difficile*, five minutes of “wet” contact time with a 1:10 chlorine bleach product or a 1:10 solution of household chlorine bleach is needed to disinfect.



Visibly clean surfaces: Disinfect surface thoroughly with EPA-registered disinfectant and let air dry a minimum of 60 seconds (*read label*). Use 1:10 chlorine solution/wipe for *C. difficile* and allow “wet” contact time of 5 minutes).

Remember *C. difficile* is spore forming and 1:10 chlorine bleach solutions/wipes are currently the only EPA-registered products that are effective against these spores.

Item to clean	Wipe down what?	When?	With what?
Blood pressure cuff (disposable preferred)	Cuff, tubing, bulb (if manual)	After each use	Wipe nylon or plastic cuffs with low-level disinfectant (LLD); if visibly soiled, wash in soap and water, rinse and hang to dry. (Cannot disinfect cloth cuffs between patients-replace them.)
Pulse ox probe (disposable preferred)	Inside and outside of reusable probe, discard if disposable	After each use	Wipe with 70% isopropyl alcohol (IPA) or low-level disinfectant (LLD).
Stethoscope	Bell and tubing	After each use	Wipe with 70% isopropyl alcohol (IPA) or low-level disinfectant (LLD).
Reflex hammer	Handle and head	After each use	Wipe with 70% isopropyl alcohol (IPA) or low-level disinfectant (LLD).
Otoscope speculae (disposable preferred)	If reusable, wash and disinfect	All surfaces after each use	70% isopropyl alcohol (IPA) may be used for non-disposable oto speculae, soak for 20 minutes.
Otoscope handle	Handle	After each use	Wipe with low level disinfectant (LLD) and air dry.
Nasal, vaginal and rectal specula (disposable preferred)	If reusable, clean after each use.	After each use	If reusable, clean in enzymatic detergent. Then autoclave or soak in high-level disinfectant (HLD).
Metal basin (disposable preferred)	Basin	After each use	Wash in enzymatic detergent and rinse well, then autoclave.

Item to clean	Wipe down what?	When?	With what?
Flexible endoscopes	Scope	After each use	Wash in enzymatic detergent per manufacturer's instructions. Soak in high-level disinfectant HLD according to manufacturer's instructions.
Vascular/fetal doppler	Head of Doppler	After each use	Wipe with 70% isopropyl alcohol (IPA).
Hyfrecator (change the tip after each use)	Wand and controls on the unit	After each use	Wipe with low-level disinfectant (LLD).
Cloth appliances (neck or arm traction, etc.)	All cloth	After each use	Wash in laundry detergent in hot/warm water, rinse well and hang to dry.
Exam tables, gurneys, papoose board, etc. Baby scale or changing table Canes, walkers, crutches, wheelchairs (other rehab equipment) Waiting room: chairs, tables, etc. (vinyl furniture preferred)	Top of table, other areas that came in contact with patient and/or bodily fluids Surfaces that come in contact with patient or staff. Special attention to surfaces that come in contact with people All surfaces that can come in contact with patient	After each use After each use After each use At least once daily and as needed during the day	If visibly soiled, clean first with friction, using a cleaner/detergent. Cleaners may have to be rinsed off (check label). Then wipe down with low-level disinfectant (LLD). (Some pop-up wipes can be used as cleaners first, then used as disinfectants-check label). If visibly soiled with stool, clean first with friction using a cleaner/detergent. Then wipe down with a chlorine bleach product 1:10 solution and allow five minutes of wet contact time. (Some chlorine products also contain disinfectants and can be used as cleaners first, then used as disinfectants-check label).
Door knobs, phones, keyboards, light switches (other "hand touch" items)	Front door, inside and out, and "community" pen at the desk; shared keyboards, counters, telephones, doorknobs, drawer pulls and other "hand touch" areas. (avoid sharing pens, pencils)	At least once daily	Disinfect keyboards for five seconds daily and when visibly dirty by wiping with low level disinfectant (LLD) or isopropyl alcohol (IPA). Do not spray chemical directly on keyboard.
Toys (Eliminating toys from office/clinic is preferred; use videos instead)	If office/clinic has toys— Use only washable toys; OR Give child 3–4 crayons in a baggie with individual sheets of pictures to color and let child keep.	After each use—between patients	Wash "used" toys with dish soap and hot water, air dry. May use dishwasher.

Note:

- Surfaces must be moisture-resistant to be able to disinfect them.
- Upholstered furniture that is not vinyl covered, soft toys, etc., cannot be disinfected and their use is discouraged.
- Carpet cannot be disinfected; use is discouraged.