
Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection

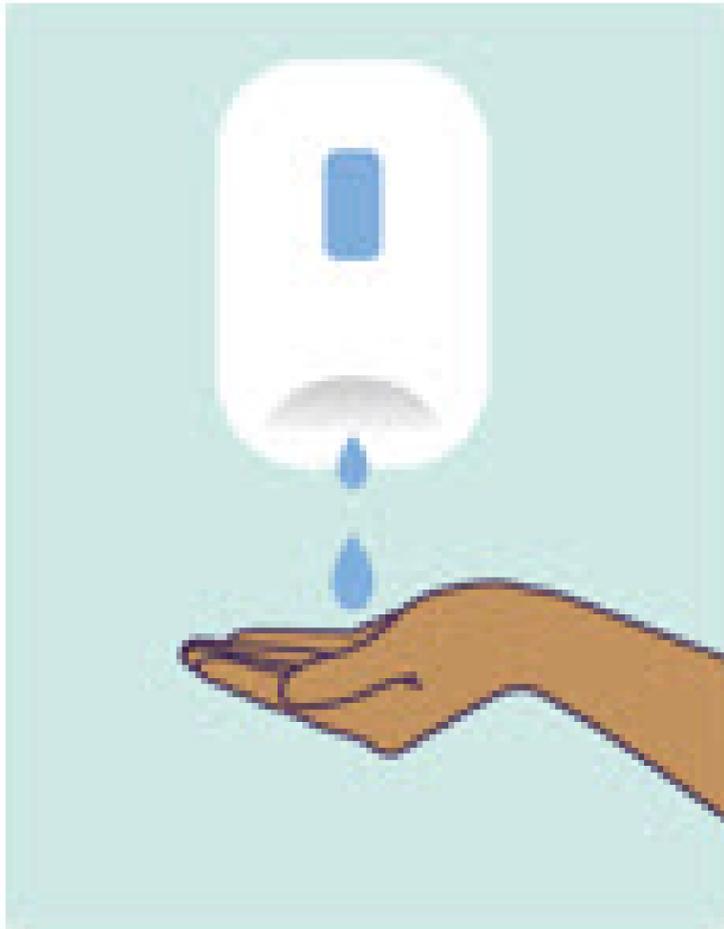


Infection Prevention

Strategies: Basics

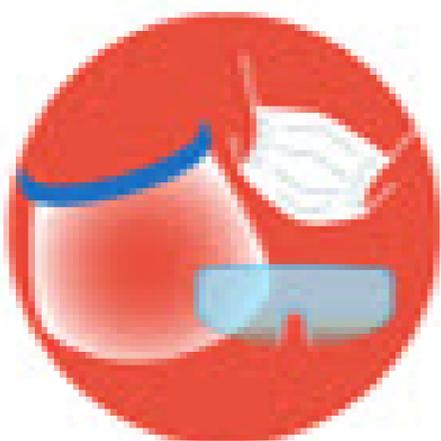
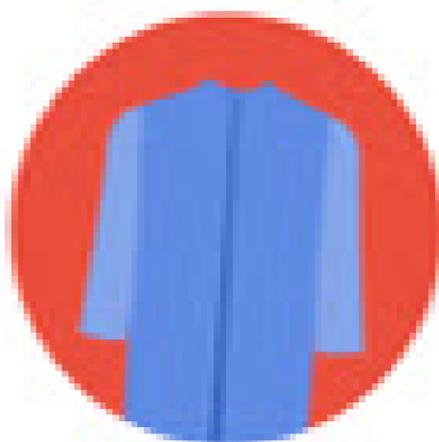
- Many healthcare-associated infections (HAI) may be prevented by implementing simple actions that require minimal resources, such as **hand hygiene, environmental and equipment cleaning, and isolation precautions**.
- **The objectives of this presentation are to:**
 - Describe the importance of environment/equipment cleaning
 - Describe the principle of the cleaning process
 - Understand the importance of cleaning agent labels
 - Understand the significance of high-touch surfaces and medical equipment cleaning
 - Understand the healthcare worker responsibilities in cleaning and disinfection

Infection Prevention Strategies: Basics



Hand Hygiene

**Cleaning and
Disinfection**



**Personal
Protective
Equipment and
Precautions**

Terminology

- **Cleaning is the removal of visible soil from objects and surfaces.**
- **Cleaning removes large numbers of microorganisms** from a surface that would otherwise interfere with the disinfection process.
- Disinfection removes most germs present on surfaces that can cause infection or disease. Disinfectants are not as effective in the presence of organic material.
- **Surfaces must be cleaned in order to be disinfected.**

Terminology

- **Cleaning** is the removal of visible soil (e.g., organic and inorganic material) from objects and surfaces
- **Disinfection** removes most germs present on surfaces that can cause infection or disease



Cleaning Process

How can you help stop the spread of germs?

- Wash hands before putting on personal protective equipment (PPE); select PPE as required.
- Change gloves and perform hand hygiene as required.
- Follow a standard process that ensures consistency and prevents contamination.
- Disinfect (or clean) environmental surfaces on a regular basis and when surfaces are visibly soiled.
- Clean walls, blinds, and window curtains in patient-care areas when these surfaces are visibly contaminated or soiled.
- Clean housekeeping surfaces (like floors and tabletops) on a regular basis, when spills occur, and when these surfaces are visibly soiled.
- Communicate issues to your supervisors.

Cleaning Process

How can you **HELP** stop the spread of germs?



This material is downloadable, free of charge. All may be adapted for use at your facility, except for the pre-recorded audio versions of module presentations” (<https://apic.org/resources/topic-specific-infection-prevention/environmental-services/>)

Cleaning Order



Follow a standard process that ensures consistency and prevents contamination.

- Work around the room in the same direction every time.
 - Start from the highest surfaces and work down.
 - Always move from clean areas to dirty areas (for example, clean the patient room first before the bathroom).
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Cleaning Order

Follow a standard process for cleaning.

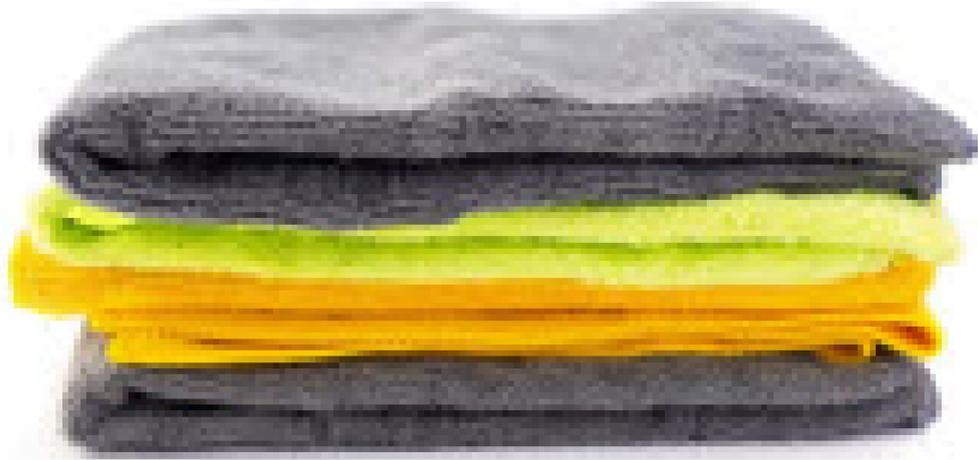


Cleaning Equipment

Change cleaning cloths as needed and use cleaning equipment in a manner that prevents contamination.

- Use separate cleaning cloths for each patient area in multi-bed rooms
 - Use separate cloths for the bathroom and the patient's room
 - Use the toilet brush only to clean the inside of the toilet bowl only
 - Clean and disinfect the cart and equipment routinely and after cleaning isolation rooms
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Cleaning Equipment



- Change cleaning cloths as needed
- Use cleaning equipment in a manner to prevent contamination



EPA Label Claim for Disinfectant

The EPA label clarifies a manufacturer's instructions for use, including wet contact time

- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for proper use of disinfecting or detergent products such as recommended use, dilution, material compatibility, storage, shelf-life, and safe use and disposal.
- Prepare disinfecting or detergent solutions as needed and replace these with fresh solutions as per manufacturer instructions.
- **Wet contact time** is the amount of time a surface should be exposed to a disinfectant to kill pathogens. The disinfectant should stay wet on a precleaned surface for the amount of time listed on the manufacturer's label.

EPA Label Claim for Disinfectant



- Clarifies manufacturer's instructions for use
 - **Wet contact time** is the time required for a disinfectant to kill microorganisms on a pre-cleaned surface
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High Touch Surfaces

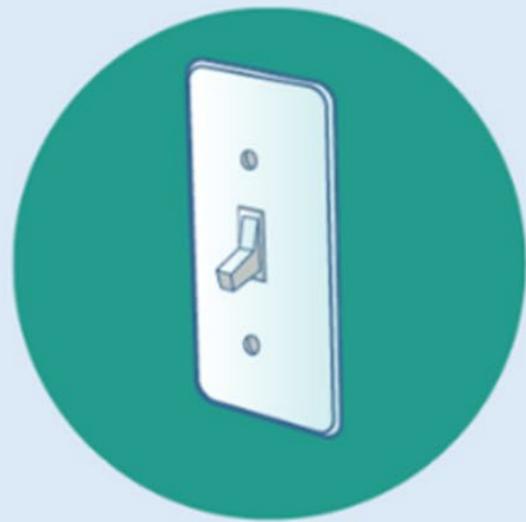
- **High touch surfaces should be cleaned at least daily.** A list of high touch surfaces and equipment is included in our cleaning and disinfection policy.
- Examples of high touch surfaces include:
 - Doorknobs or door handles
 - Light switches
 - Bedpan cleaners
 - Toilet handholds
 - Bedrail
 - Call bell
 - TV remote
 - IV pump
 - Toilet, commode chair
 - Computer keyboard
 - Telephone
 - Over bed table
 - Respiratory and other bedside equipment
 - Chairs
 - IV poles

High Touch Surfaces

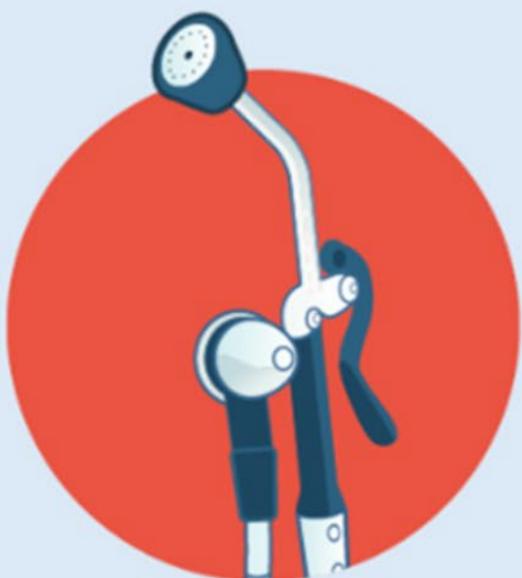
Perform at least daily cleaning/
disinfection on surfaces likely to be
contaminated (e.g., **high touch
surfaces**)



DOOR HANDLE



LIGHT SWITCH



BEDPAN CLEANERS



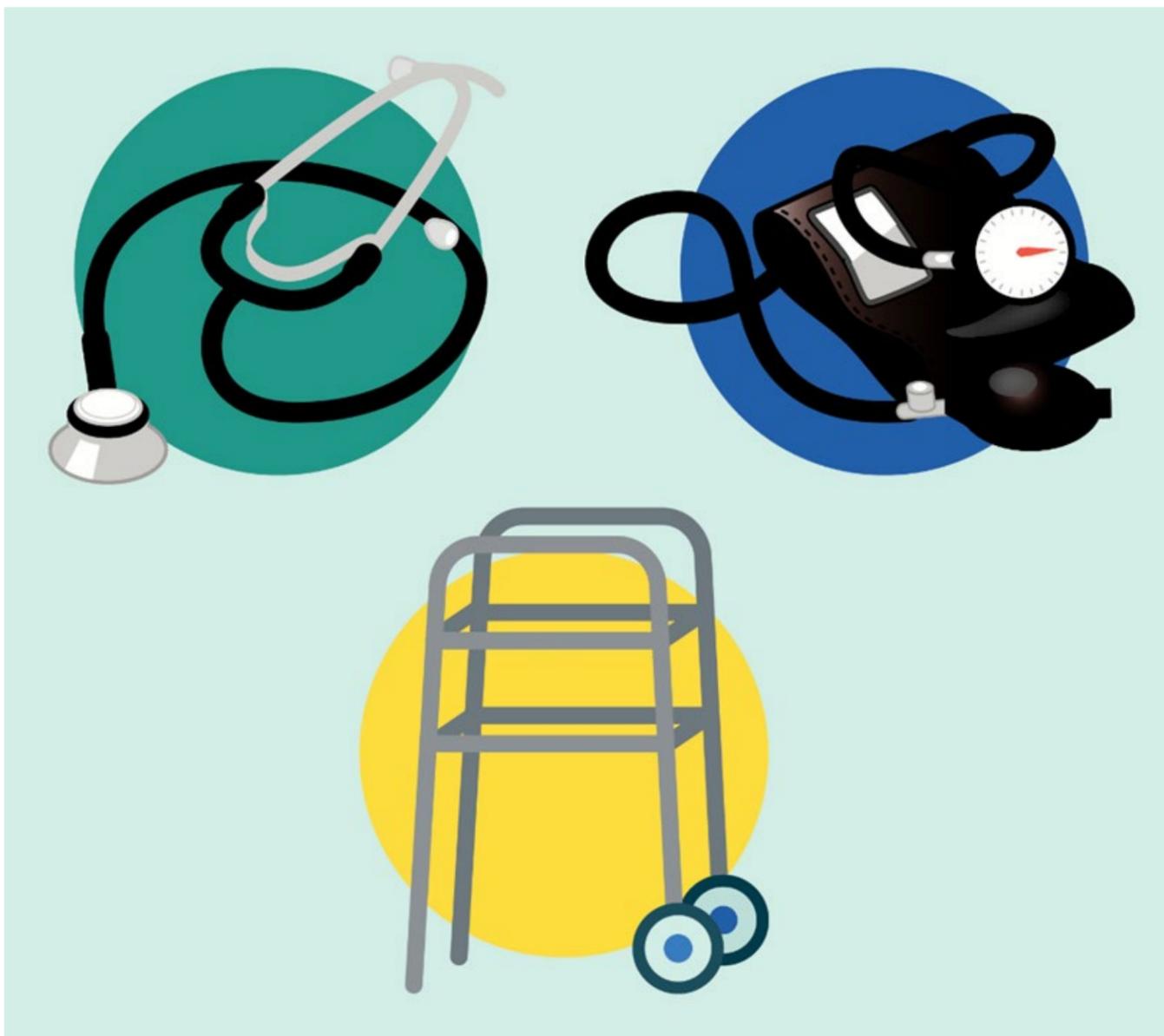
TOILET HANDHOLDS

Cleaning and Disinfection of Shared Medical Equipment



- Clean and disinfect shared medical equipment prior to use with another resident.
 - Ensure appropriate cleaning and disinfectant products are easily accessed at points of use.
 - Everyone has a role in environmental cleaning and disinfection. Make sure you know who is responsible for cleaning particular items in the patient room.
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Cleaning and Disinfection of Shared Medical Equipment



- Clean medical equipment after each patient use
- **Everyone is responsible for environmental cleaning and disinfection**

Summary

In summary:

- A properly cleaned care environment is essential to prevent infections.
- Wash your hands before and after cleaning and as needed.
- Follow a standard process that ensures consistency and prevents contamination.
- Clean/disinfect high-touch surfaces at least daily.
- Follow manufacturers' instructions on the label including wet contact time for proper use of disinfectant.
- All staff have a role in ensuring a clean patient care environment.

To the instructor only:

End by handing out the post-test activity to class participants. Give 5 minutes for participants to answer; then collect tests.

Cleaning and Disinfection



- A properly cleaned care environment is essential to prevent infections
 - **Wash your hands** before and after cleaning and as needed
 - Follow a **standard process** that ensures consistency and prevents contamination
 - Clean/disinfect **high-touch surfaces** at least daily
 - Follow manufacturers' instructions on the label including **wet contact time** for proper use of disinfectant
 - **All staff have a role in ensuring a clean patient care environment**
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Instructor Notes

- On the front of the flipchart, you will find the subject to be discussed; the back of each picture and subject has a suggested script. The script will help guide the learning experience between you and your staff; it does not need to be followed exactly.
 - Try to start a dialogue to involve your staff.
 - You may start your session with a pre-test activity. Give 5 minutes for participants to answer; then collect tests.
 - To begin, let class participants know that this presentation will teach them the importance of environmental/equipment cleaning in infection prevention.
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