
Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection



Infection Prevention

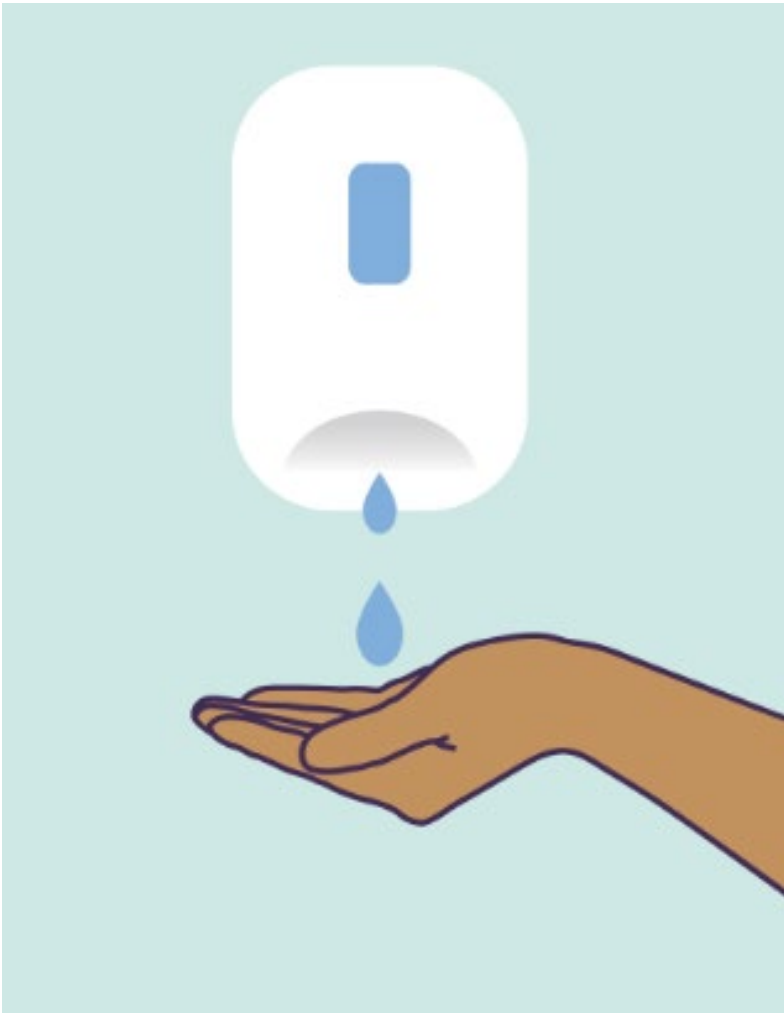
Strategies: Basics

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



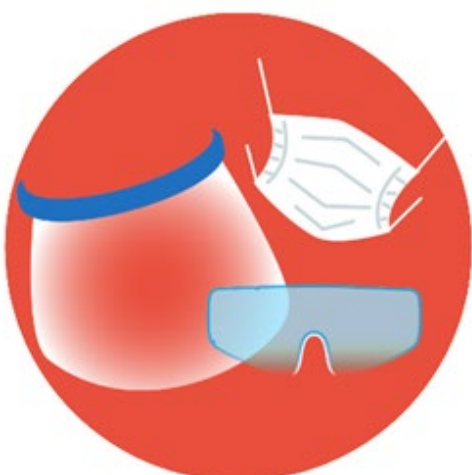
Hand Hygiene



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



[APIC materials](http://apic.org/resources/topic-specific-infection-prevention/environmental-services/) (apic.org/resources/topic-specific-infection-prevention/environmental-services/) are downloadable. May be adapted for facility use, except for the pre-recorded audio versions of module presentations.

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).

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
-
-

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

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

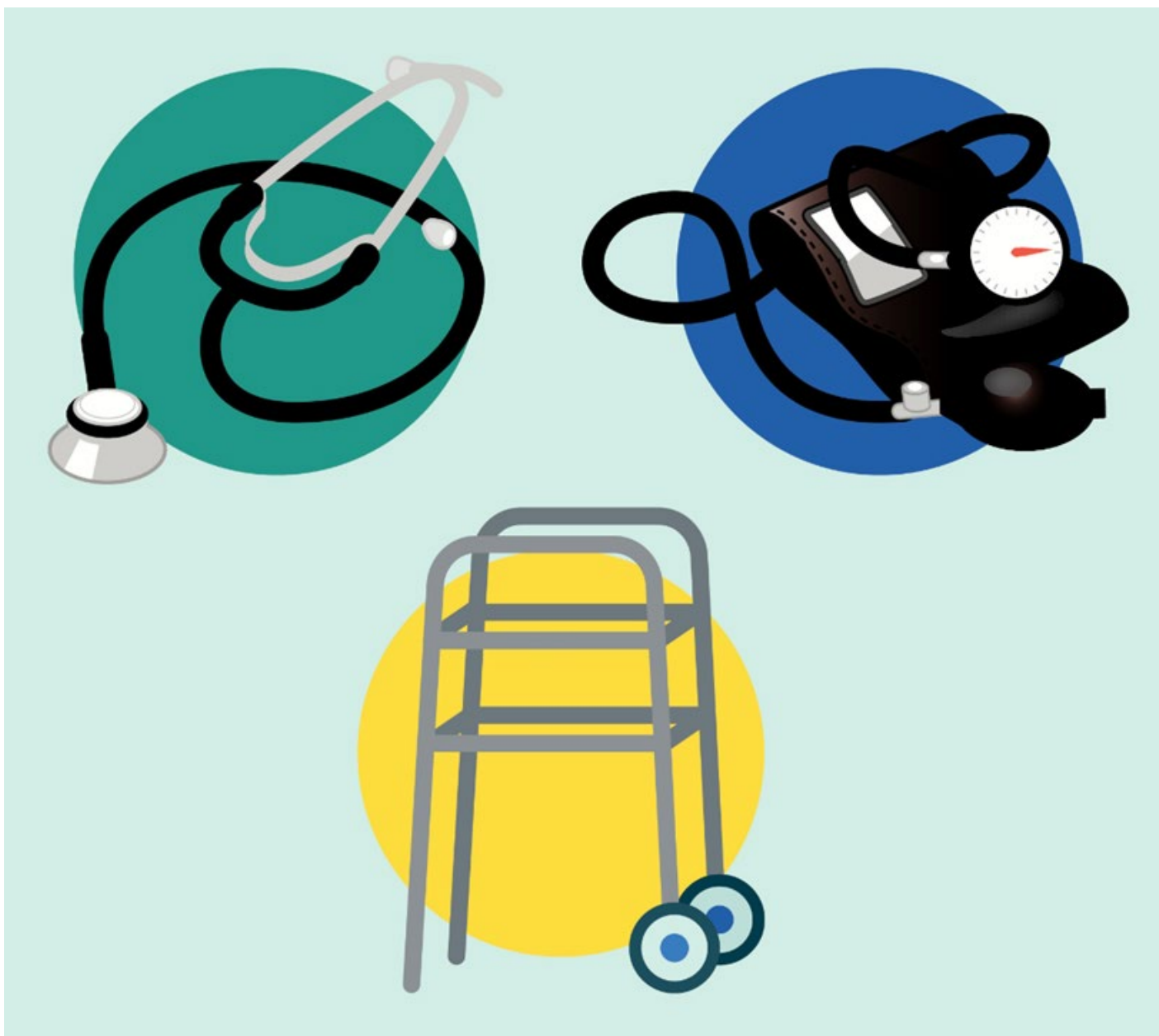


TOILET HANDHOLDS

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.

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**

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.

