

<b>DEPT. AREA:</b> Infection Control	<b>POLICY NAME:</b> Environmental Cleaning: Policy & Procedure	<b>POLICY NUMBER:</b>
<b>EFFECTIVE (ORIGINAL) DATE:</b>		<b>REVISED DATE(S):</b>
<b>MOST RECENT APPROVAL DATE(S):</b>	<b>DATE(S) REVIEWED:</b>	<b>REVIEWED/APPROVED BY:</b>
<b>APPLIES TO:</b> ALL STAFF/ ALL LOCATIONS		

## **Environmental Cleaning: Policy and Procedure**

### **Purpose**

To maintain a clean environment for patients and minimize the risk of patient and healthcare personnel exposure to potentially infectious microorganisms.

### **Policy**

The patient care environment throughout the facility will be maintained in a state of cleanliness that meets professional standards in order to protect patients and healthcare personnel from potentially infectious microorganisms. Environmental cleaning is a team effort. Personnel responsible for cleaning the environment and equipment will receive education and training on proper environmental cleaning and disinfection methods, agent use and selection, and safety precautions.

### **Procedure**

Personal protective equipment (PPE) must be worn according to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Bloodborne Pathogen Standard when disposing of waste that could result in exposure to bloodborne or other potentially infectious microorganisms and hazardous material.

1. Cleaning of treatment room daily or when incidents require it.
  - Prepare disinfectant solution according to manufacturer's instructions.
  - Collect and remove waste
  - Collect and remove all soiled linen
  - Use a cloth dampened in disinfectant solution to clean and disinfect horizontal surfaces that have come in contact with a patient or body fluids, including blood pressure cuffs.

- Clean and disinfect treatment tables
  - Insert new waste liner bags if needed
2. Terminal cleaning of each treatment room will be completed daily when the scheduled procedures are completed for the day.
- Collect and remove waste
  - Collect and remove all soiled linen
  - Clean and disinfect all exterior surfaces of machines and equipment
  - Clean and disinfect all horizontal surfaces
  - Clean and disinfect treatment tables
  - Replace all furniture and equipment to its proper location
  - Clean and store cleaning equipment
  - Report any needed repairs
- a. Disposal
- Place soiled cloths in designated container for laundering or dispose
  - Remove soiled linen if bag is full
  - Place obvious waste in receptacles
  - Remove waste
- b. Clean hands; if hands are visibly soiled, wash with soap and water
- c. Replenish supplies as required (e.g., gloves, ABHR, soap, paper towel)
3. Clean bathrooms, working from clean areas to dirty areas.
- Wash hands and put on gloves
  - Clean door handle and frame, light switch
  - Clean wall attachments
  - Clean inside and outside of sink, sink faucets and mirror; wipe plumbing under the sink; apply disinfectant to interior of sink; ensure sufficient contact time with disinfectant; rinse sink and dry fixtures
  - Clean all dispensers and frames
  - Clean support railings, ledges/shelves
  - Clean walls and railing, scrubbing as required to remove soil; ensure sufficient contact time for disinfectant; rinse and wipe dry
  - Change all waste bags, clean waste can if dirty
  - Remove gloves and wash hands
  - Replenish paper towel, toilet paper, waste bag, soap and ABHR as required

4. Personnel responsible for cleaning must perform hand hygiene:
  - a. Before initial patient environment contact (e.g., before coming into the patient space);
  - b. After potential body fluid exposure (e.g., after cleaning bathroom, handling soiled linen, equipment or waste); and
  - c. After patient environment contact (e.g., after cleaning patient space; after cleaning equipment such as adjustment tables; after changing mop heads).
  - d. Gloves (when used) must be removed on leaving each patient space. Personnel must **clean hands after removing gloves** as gloves do not provide complete protection against hand contamination.

### **References**

To access the CDC's Guideline for Disinfection and Sterilization in Healthcare Facilities in its entirety, see the CDC website at:

[http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/pdf/guidelines/Disinfection\\_Nov\\_2008.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/pdf/guidelines/Disinfection_Nov_2008.pdf)

To access the December 2009 version of the Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee's (PIDAC) Best Practices for Environmental Cleaning for Infection Prevention and Control in All Health Care Settings, see the PIDAC website at:

[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/infectious/diseases/best\\_prac/bp\\_enviro\\_clean.pdf](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/infectious/diseases/best_prac/bp_enviro_clean.pdf)