

	POLICIES & PROCEDURES Number: 20-80 Title: Non Critical Patient Care Equipment – Cleaning and Disinfection
Authorization: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHR Infection Prevention & Control Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Facility Board of Directors	Source: Infection Prevention & Control Date Initiated: June 5, 2001 Date Reaffirmed: May, 2004 Date Revised: May 2012 Scope: SHR Agencies & Affiliates

Introduction

Non Critical items are items that come in contact with intact skin but not with mucous membranes.

Appropriate cleaning, disinfection and sterilization of patient care equipment is important in limiting the transmission of organisms related to reusable patient care equipment.

Cleaning is always essential prior to disinfection or sterilization. An item that has not been cleaned cannot be disinfected or sterilized.

Policy

1. Equipment that is visibly soiled must be cleaned before use on another patient.
2. Manufacturer’s instructions regarding cleaning and disinfection of equipment are to be followed. Low level disinfectants are to be used for non critical items.
3. Equipment must be cleaned and disinfected or sterilized before it is used on the next patient.
4. Soiled patient care equipment should be handled in a manner that prevents exposure to skin and mucous membranes, contamination of clothing or the environment.

Purpose

1. To prevent transmission of infection from patient to patient or from patient to healthcare worker (HCW) or HCW to patients.

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Procedure

1. Clean and reprocess reusable equipment that has been in direct contact with the patient before use in the care of another patient. If cleaning between patients is not possible, establish a routine cleaning procedure for items that are in contact only with intact skin.
2. Establish procedures/schedules for assigning responsibility and accountability for routine cleaning of all patient care equipment. Documentation is to be completed when equipment has been cleaned. See Appendix A, Cleaning Guideline
3. Train a designated person to do cleaning and decontamination. This person will be trained in use of appropriate protective barriers and cleaning, handling of cleaning supplies and equipment in a safe manner.
4. Clean and decontaminate reusable equipment in a designated area. This area is to be separated from the areas where clean or sterile equipment is stored.

See Infection Prevention and Control Manual Policy/Procedure regarding [Antiseptics and Disinfectants](#) for assistance in selecting the appropriate solution.

References:

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Guidelines for environmental infection control in health-care facilities: recommendations of CDC and the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC)*. 2003.
2. CHICA. CHICA-Canada Practice Recommendations for Toys. 2011.
4. Rutala W. Weber D. and Healthcare Infection Control Advisory Committee. *Guideline for Disinfection and Sterilization in Healthcare Facilities*. 2008.

Appendix A – Cleaning Guidelines *

Daily Cleaning

1. Thermometer and holder
2. Handles for otoscope/ ophthalmoscope
3. Blood glucose testing machine and entire case
4. Pulse oximetry machine
5. Handles of the patients' lifts
6. Keyboard and keyboard covers
7. Tourniquet (lab use)

Cleaning Between Patients/Clients

1. IV poles
2. Stethoscopes – clean the diaphragm between patients
3. Electronic/Manual BP cuff and machine
4. Electronic monitoring and imaging equipment
5. Dopplers
6. Temporal artery thermometers (TAT) (clean probe head after each use and thermometer twice weekly)
7. Ultra sound equipment and bottle (between uses)
8. Intracavitary ultrasound transducers – high level disinfection required
9. Infusion pumps, tube feeding pumps
10. Cardiac monitor cables, mounted and portable monitors
11. Fans (and weekly when used in common areas)
12. Walkers
13. Stocking donners
14. Leg supports/stockings (and when soiled)
15. O2 delivery systems exteriors (gauges, water container) – weekly in long-stay patients
16. Stretchers/exam tables
17. Beds – mattresses, bed rails
18. Suction equipment exteriors (gauges and collection container) – weekly in long-stay patients
19. Shared Commodes and Urinals
20. Bair hugger warmer
21. Ice packs – clean reusable ones; discard single use ones
22. Isolation Carts
23. Tubs/whirlpools/hydrosound tubs and accompanying lifts; shower chairs
24. Wheelchairs/recliners/Broda (surface)
25. Sleep chairs (family use)
26. Crash carts
27. Slider boards
28. Mouthed toys – See [50-20 Toys and Toy Cleaning](#)
29. Maxi Slider
30. Chair weigh scale
31. Baby scale (unless use paper sheet for each baby - then once a day or if it is soiled)
32. Lift machine and lifts (short stay – surface clean)

Appendix A – Cleaning Guidelines *

Weekly Cleaning

1. Wheelchairs/recliners/Broda (complete)
2. IV poles in storage
3. Linen Hampers
4. Mattresses (LTC – on bath days)
5. Monitor belts
6. ECG machine
7. Carts - CVC carts, dressing carts, IV baskets, and crash emergency carts, medication cart
8. Standing weigh scale
9. Lift Machine and lifts (for canvas – use protective barrier when soiling is anticipated. Launder canvas lifts weekly and when visibly soiled)
10. Medication carts
11. Stretchers/exam tables (complete)
12. Ice Machines (exterior and thorough cleaning, disinfection and maintenance according to manufacturer's directions)
13. Transfer belts – launder
14. Ventilators - clean exterior with circuit changes
15. Nursing bags (and when soiled)
16. V.A.C. cases (and when soiled)
17. Toilet Risers – remove the riser and thoroughly clean
18. Patient dedicated Urinals and Commodes

* Cleaning and disinfection schedules and methods vary according to the area of the facility, type of surface to be cleaned, and the amount and type of soil present.