

Cleaning Commodes

NURSING RESPONSIBILITIES

- Contact surfaces of the commode (seat, armrests, and basin) must be cleaned and sanitized following each patient use. The approved disinfectant ready to use wipes must be readily available for this purpose.
- When a commode dedicated for patient use is no longer required by the patient, housekeeping is notified and a completed “Housekeeping: cleaning and disinfection required” sign is placed on the chair to prevent use by another patient. (A sign is being developed.)

HOUSEKEEPING RESPONSIBILITIES

- Upon notification by nursing staff, the commode will be removed from circulation and taken for cleaning and disinfection. Chairs that are constructed to withstand power washing or automated washing in a machine designed for this purpose may be processed in this manner, where such equipment is available.
- When manual cleaning is done, all surfaces must be cleaned and then disinfected.

NOTE: If the chair is found to be in a state of disrepair or surfaces are cracked, the chair cannot be adequately cleaned. This must be brought to the attention of the nursing manager or leader so that repair or replacement can be facilitated.