

# CLEANING AND DISINFECTION IN COMMUNITY CLINIC SETTINGS.

## GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- Always perform a Point of Care Risk Assessment (PCRA) to assess what PPE is required for cleaning (wear gloves at a minimum).
- Use an Island Health approved disinfectant. Ready to Use (RTU) wipes are appropriate.
- Clean from cleanest surface to dirtiest surface and from highest surfaces to lowest surfaces.
- Never double dip a cleaning cloth in cleaning solution.
- Never use the same surface of a cloth to wipe more than one object.
- Use separate cloths for clean and dirty tasks.
- Remove gloves, perform hand hygiene and put on a new pair of gloves between rooms and between dirty and clean tasks.

## MID-DAY CLEANING

- All frequently touched surfaces should be cleaned midday including doorknobs, light switches, telephones, keyboards, mice, pens, clipboards and plastic bindings on charts, toys, chairs in the waiting room and touch surfaces in bathrooms.

## CLEANING BATHROOMS IF SOILED DURING THE DAY

1. Perform hand hygiene and put on gloves (and other PPE as required).
2. Remove any gross contamination or bodily fluids (see 2-step process\* above.)
3. Clean and disinfect, working from clean to dirty and from high to low. Use separate cloths for fixtures, sink and toilet. Ensure the following areas are cleaned:
  - Wipe door handle and light switch
  - Wipe paper towel and soap dispensers
  - Wipe support railings
  - Wipe sink fixtures and sink basin
  - Wipe toilet flush lever
  - Wipe toilet seat (including underside)
  - Spot clean the floor as needed
  - All other high touch or contaminated surfaces
4. Remove gloves/PPE and perform hand hygiene.

## CLEANING THE EXAM ROOM BETWEEN CLIENTS

1. Perform hand hygiene and put on gloves (and other PPE as required).
2. Specimens or used procedure equipment should be taken to the soiled utility room to be disposed of, or processed, if applicable.
3. Collect and remove all soiled linens, used paper, disposable supplies and other waste.
4. Clean any visible soiling using the two-step process\*.
5. Remove gloves, perform hand hygiene and put on a new pair of gloves.
6. To clean and disinfect the room:
  - Wipe all horizontal surfaces and equipment that have come in contact\*\* with the patient, body fluids, or contaminated items with a disinfecting wipe. This may include:
    - Tops of procedure lights and handles used
    - Blood pressure cuffs and cables
    - Otosopes, thermometers, pulse oximeters or other equipment used
    - Stethoscopes
    - Exam table/bed/chair
    - Countertop and portable carts/tables
7. Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene.

Note: Phone, keyboard, mouse and touch-screens should be cleaned and disinfected between providers (even in non-clinical areas)

### **\*IF A SURFACE IS VISIBLY SOILED, FOLLOW A 2-STEP PROCESS (CLEANING FOLLOWED BY DISINFECTION)**

1. Perform hand hygiene and put on gloves and other additional PPE according to risk assessment.
2. Remove large amounts of blood or body fluids using disposable paper towels and/or solidifying agents. Discard (if soaked or dripping with blood, dispose in biohazard waste.)
3. Wipe the surface with one disinfectant wipe to clean and remove all visible soiling. Discard wipe.
4. Remove gloves, perform hand hygiene and put on a new pair of gloves.
5. Wipe all surfaces with a second disinfectant wipe to disinfect. Discard wipe. Allow surface to remain wet for required contact time (check manufacturer instructions).

### **\*\*IF A PATIENT IS ON "DROPLET/CONTACT" PRECAUTIONS, OR AS NEEDED:**

- Wipe ALL high touch surfaces and horizontal surfaces such as the door handles, sinks and taps, countertops, desks, chairs and exam tables.
- Wipe ALL medical equipment in the room (e.g. vital signs measuring equipment, otoscopes, etc.)
- Wipe down the phone, keyboard, mouse, and touch-screens.