

The Infection Post

Environmental Cleaning and IPAC: One ultimate goal!

Routine Cleaning

- Everyday cleaning
- Regular cleaning and disinfectant products
- Usually once a day

Enhanced Cleaning

- Used during outbreaks and environment in Additional Precautions
- Using enhanced cleaning and disinfectant products
- Focus on high-touch surfaces
- Increased frequency, 2-3 times a day

Special Cleaning

- Focused in specific hard to kill pathogens such as *C. difficile*, Norovirus
- Using sporocidal disinfectants
- Include high-touch surfaces
- Increased frequency, 2-3 times a day

Terminal cleaning?

Terminal cleaning is used after discontinuation of Additional Precautions and declaring outbreak over. This is one time thorough cleaning of a resident room(s) and adjacent spaces to remove potential contaminating microorganisms. All items inside the room should be cleaned with appropriate disinfectant. Consider replacing or other ways of cleaning for porous surfaces/items.

Discharge or transfer cleaning?

When a patient/resident is discharged, transferred or dies, the room or bed space must be cleaned and disinfected thoroughly before the next patient/resident occupies the space to prevent the transfer of microorganisms to the new client/patient/resident.



Patient bed-space



Steps

Clean to dirty and high to low areas

1 Remove dirty linen and waste from the room



Linen

- Place dirty linen in linen bag.
- Fill linen bag and remove when $\frac{3}{4}$ full.

Waste

- Remove waste by holding plastic bags from the top.
- Do not overfill or press bags.

2 Bed and pillow



- Remove sheets and pillow cases carefully. DO NOT SHAKE.
- Roll and place into a dirty linen bag.

3 Personal Items



Throw away personal care items left in the room.

- Item examples:
- Lotions, creams, and magazines

High-touch surfaces



Guidance Documents & Educational Resources

KW4CND IPAC Hub team happy to launch this monthly publication to share resources, updates, news, initiatives related to IPAC for long-term care homes, retirement homes and all other congregate settings to improve their IPAC practices and improve quality of care and life of residents and clients. Scan QR code to visit our website.

