

# INFECTION PREVENTION BEST PRACTICES CLEANING & DISINFECTION

1st

**Clean:** the physical removal of debris (dust, soil, bodily fluid) using friction, water and detergent.

2nd

**Disinfect:** the process of killing germs.

## PRODUCT REVIEW

Read the instructions and consider the:

- Pathogens** the product is effective against
- Longest **contact time** on the label
- Surfaces** the product can be used on

## EPA REGISTRATION

- Find the EPA registration number on the product
- Verify that it is listed on EPA's list of approved disinfectants
- <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/selected-epa-registered-disinfectants>

## ROUTINE VERSUS TERMINAL

**Routine** occurs when the room is occupied.

- At least once daily
- Attend to high touch surfaces
- Remove organic material
- Reduce contamination

**Terminal** occurs after the resident is discharged or transferred.

- Attend to all surfaces
- Remove organic material
- Eliminate contamination
- Discard disposable personal care items

## PRODUCT STORAGE

- Follow the Instructions
- Designated storage area
- Above the floor
- Clearly labeled
- Accessible to staff

## SHARED EQUIPMENT

- Make an inventory of shared items and equipment
- Create a schedule indicating how often items should be cleaned and disinfected, and who is responsible
- Clearly label and store equipment
- Consider using disposable or dedicated equipment

## HIGH TOUCH SURFACES

- Create a list of high touch surfaces that are specific to your facility
- Implement a log or checklist that allows staff to sign off on the items they attended to
- Review the cleaning and disinfection log
- High touch surfaces may vary throughout the facility (e.g., resident room vs. staff break room).

Examples:

- Door handles
- Light switches
- Shared pens and office supplies
- Sinks and faucet handles
- Technology

## EVS CARTS

- Maintain product and equipment stock
- Create a schedule for cleaning and disinfecting the carts
- Frequently inspect cleaning equipment and replace as needed

## AUDITING

- Regularly audit for compliance and quality of cleaning and disinfection protocols
- Use direct observations, visual assessments or fluorescent marker auditing
- Provide non-punitive feedback to staff