



CLEANING AND DISINFECTION FOR DAYCARES

Environmental control

The facility's environment may be a potential source or means for transferring infections. The environment includes, but is not limited to, environmental surfaces, equipment, furniture, all floors, walls and ceilings. Regular cleaning and disinfection of equipment and environmental surfaces is needed to prevent the transmission of infectious agents.

Cleaning and disinfecting procedures and frequencies should be established for your facility. These policies should be specific enough to point out the process, the products required and the frequency for cleaning and disinfection of equipment and environmental surfaces. The policies should also provide instructions for cleaning and disinfection during outbreaks.

Cleaning: A cleaning step is required prior to disinfection to remove organics and debris from equipment, objects and surfaces. Cleaning involves the physical removal of organic matter and debris using soap and a detergent followed by rinsing with clean water. It is conducted prior to disinfecting the facility.

Disinfection: Disinfection is the inactivation of disease-producing microorganisms. Disinfecting does not destroy bacterial spores. It is conducted after the equipment has been cleaned thoroughly for it to be effective.

The level of disinfectant used will depend on the use and the type of equipment, surfaces and objects and the nature of contamination.

Principles for routine environmental cleaning and disinfection

- A predetermined schedule must be followed for routine cleaning and disinfection of environmental surfaces.
- All surfaces and equipment must be cleaned before disinfection can be performed. Disinfection can only take place after cleaning. The level of disinfectant to be used will depend on the equipment or surface being disinfected. Refer to the following chart as a guide.
- Disinfectant solutions must be mixed and used according to manufacturer's instructions.
- When applying a disinfectant to a surface, a certain amount of contact time is needed for the disinfectant to work. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for contact time required.
- Some disinfectants require a final rinse depending on the use of the equipment, object, or surface. Read the product label to determine if a final rinse is required.
- Damp (rather than dry) dusting or sweeping should be done whenever possible.
- Ensure cleaning and disinfection is carried out from the least soiled areas to the heaviest soiled areas.

Lower-Level Disinfection Chart

Disinfectant	Concentration	Recipe	Contact Time	When to use
Chlorine (bleach) 5% to 6% sodium hypochlorite	100 ppm	1 tsp bleach with 10 cups of water	10 minutes	General disinfectant products for everyday use
0.5% Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide	Follow manufacturer's instructions	Follow manufacturer's instructions	Follow manufacturer's instructions	General disinfectant products for everyday use

Higher Level Disinfection Chart

Disinfectant	Concentration	Recipe	Contact Time	When to use
Chlorine (bleach) 5% to 6% sodium hypochlorite	5000 ppm	¼ cup bleach with 2 ¼ cups water	10 minutes	Use during gastroenteritis outbreaks