



<b>Title</b>	Infection Control Manual Section 5.6 – Ice Making Machines and Water Coolers
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## 5.6 ICE MAKING MACHINES & WATER COOLERS: POLICY

**Aim:** Ice making machines and Water coolers are maintained in such a way as to prevent water related illnesses

**The Infection Prevention Control Team and Estates Department must be informed before purchasing these machines and only machines recommended by them must be used. All machines must be maintained on a regular basis by the Estates Department**

Each department must have in place, a protocol of who is responsible for ensuring that these machines are cleaned according to the policy.

### Standards

#### Ice making machines

The outer and inner compartment of the machine must be cleaned on a weekly basis or more frequently as the need arises.

- Thoroughly wash and dry hands
- Don disposable apron and disposable gloves
- Switch off the machine at the mains and remove ice from the inner compartment
- Clean the machine with a new disposable cloth and general purpose detergent and warm water

**If the ice making machine has a grille, particular care must be given to cleaning this area. If unable to clean the grille to a high standard, contact the Estates Department for help**

- Rinse with clean water from the mains supply (drinking water)
- Switch the machine on at the mains switch
- Place the used disposable cleaning cloth into clinical waste
- Remove the disposable apron and gloves and place into clinical waste
- Thoroughly wash and dry hands.

Keep a cleaning record identifying the date and person who undertook the cleaning.

Report any defect with the ice making machine to the Estates Department.

### **General points**

- Thoroughly wash and dry hands before collecting ice from the ice compartment
- Use a clean scoop that is smooth and impermeable, or a disposable plastic cup
- The scoop should be kept outwith the ice compartment on a clean impermeable tray
- The scoop must be thoroughly cleaned and dried before and after each use. Keep the door to the ice compartment closed except when removing ice.

**Ice must not be given from the ice making machine to Immuno Compromised patients.**

### **Water coolers**

- Clean on a weekly basis or more frequently as the need arises
- Thoroughly wash and dry hands
- Don disposable apron and disposable gloves
- Clean all outer aspects of the machine with a new disposable cloth and general purpose detergent and warm water
- Rinse with clean water from the mains supply (drinking water)
- Place the used disposable cleaning cloth into clinical waste
- Remove the disposable apron and gloves and place into clinical waste
- Thoroughly wash and dry hands.

Keep a cleaning record identifying the date and person who undertook the cleaning. Report any defect with the water cooler to the Estates Department.