



Title	Infection Control Manual Section 8.5 – Cleaning of Isolation Room
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8.5 CLEANING OF ISOLATION ROOM (Known or suspected infection or closed bay)

Cleaning responsibilities

Nursing staff are responsible for cleaning all patient care equipment

Nurses are responsible for cleaning all patient care equipment including the top frame of the bed and mattress. Responsibilities for cleaning are detailed in '[Roles/Responsibilities of Cleaning Furniture/Equipment in Patient Areas](#)' in section 2.1 of the Infection Prevention and Control Manual including reference to the frequency of cleaning required. In the first instance, blood and body fluid spillages should be cleaned-up by nursing staff. Following initial clean-up, nursing staff should inform the ward domestic who will complete the cleaning process

Cleaning Solution

1,000ppm chlorine solution with combined detergent (currently [Actichlor Plus](#)) should be used by domestics for routine cleaning of the environment and by nurses for patient care equipment.

Dedicated care equipment

When possible, dedicated patient care equipment should be identified for the period of isolation. Equipment should be stored within the room or in a clearly defined area out with.

Inform Domestic Supervisor

When an isolation room is identified, the nurse in charge should notify the domestic supervisor that special cleaning is required as soon as possible. The domestic supervisor must ensure that the procedure is known and understood by the ward domestic and that suitable equipment and materials are available.

Terminal Cleaning of Isolation Room

Following the patients discharge or transfer, terminal cleaning of the vacated room and all patient care equipment is essential. 1,000ppm Chlorine solution with combined detergent should be used for terminal cleaning.

Terminal Cleaning Nursing Duties Summary

- Decontaminate Hands
- Apply disposable plastic apron and gloves
- Strip bed and dispose of linen as per NHS Borders used linen policy
- Clean all items as detailed in '[Roles/Responsibilities of Cleaning Furniture/Equipment in Patient Areas](#)' in section 2.1 using 1,000ppm Chlorine solution with detergent
- Only remake bed when all other cleaning is completed by General Services
- Items which cannot be washed or laundered must be discarded into a yellow clinical waste bag.

When cleaning is complete, remove disposable gloves and apron before leaving the room and discard into yellow clinical waste bag. Thoroughly wash and dry hands.

Laundering patients clothing at home

For relatives who are laundering patient clothes at home, place patient clothing in a clear Disolvo-bag (See [Used Linen Policy](#)). A '[Washing clothes at home](#)' leaflet should be provided.

Terminal Cleaning General Service's Duties Summary

Chemicals for cleaning isolation rooms:
1,000ppm Chlorine solution with combined detergent

- Apply disposable plastic apron and gloves
- Assemble necessary cleaning equipment
- Remove all curtains (window, screen and shower) for laundering
- Clean all horizontal surfaces, furniture, fixtures and fittings, with 1,000ppm Chlorine solution with detergent.

- Toilet and hand towel dispensers; after washing these items with 1,000ppm Chlorine with detergent solution, a few sheets of toilet roll and the hand towels exposed to the environment should be disposed of in a yellow clinical waste sack
- The bathroom is cleaned as daily clean with 1,000ppm Chlorine and combined detergent solution particular attention to all surfaces used by patient, i.e. toilet seats, shower, handles and grasp rails
- Clean the ward and bathroom floor by either mopping or machine scrubbing with 1,000ppm Chlorine with detergent solution. All electrical equipment used must be cleaned and dried within the room and any pads disposed of in a yellow clinical waste bag. All mops used must be sent to the laundry in a Disolvo-bag
- All surfaces must be rinsed and dried thoroughly with a yellow disposable cloth after cleaning
- When cleaning is complete, remove disposable gloves and apron before leaving the room and discard into yellow clinical waste bag. Thoroughly wash and dry hands.

Further advice can be sought from the General Services Manager or Infection Control Nurse.