Health workers and coronavirus

Clean and disinfect patient areas

How to clean and disinfect

• First clean with detergent (soap) and water, and wipe with rinsed cloth.
• Then wipe with disinfectant like sodium hypochlorite 0.1% (use 0.5% if blood or body fluids) and allow to air dry.
• For smaller surfaces, 70% alcohol or disinfectant wipes can be used.
• Move from cleanest to dirtiest areas, and from higher to lower levels.

When to clean and disinfect

High-risk areas (triage, testing areas, isolation wards and ICUs):
At least three-four times a day

Low-risk areas: At least once a day

Areas needing thorough and frequent disinfection

The “patient zone”
• Includes bed rails, bedside cabinet, trolley and equipment around patient.
• Disinfect between each patient. If visibly dirty, clean first.

High-touch surfaces
• Includes tables, desks, phones, keyboards, mouse, door handles, light switches, taps.
• Disinfect after use or every 60 minutes.

Toilets
• Disinfect every 3-6 hours.

Screening, triage and testing areas
• Disinfect chairs between each patient.
• If visibly dirty, clean first.

Testing booths
• Disinfect between each patient.

Shared medical equipment
• Disinfect after each use.

NICD 24-hour hotline number: 0800 11 1131 or 066 562 4021
www.sacoronavirus.co.za
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