

A-Z Decontamination of Equipment and Medical Devices (Reviewed June 2017)

Staff must follow the Infection Control Decontamination of Equipment and Medical Devices Guidelines as listed in the following section, to ensure that items are decontaminated and that no staff or service user is put at risk.

The individual indicated in the responsible person column must decontaminate the item as indicated in the method column.

The term Nurse has been used to describe the professional directly delivering care however in certain areas the individual may belong to another discipline e.g. Physiotherapist, Technical Instructor, Occupational Therapist etc.

Overall accountability for ensuring provision of single use items and appropriate decontamination of reusable items lies with the Clinical Area/Ward Manager or Modern Matron, this includes regular audit to ensure compliance with the standards as set out in the Medical devices policy.

Medical Device	Method	Responsible Person
Airways	Single use only.	Clinician
Ambubag	Single use only.	Clinician
Ambu-lift/Hoist	After each use, wash with neutral detergent. If contaminated with body fluids, clean with high level disinfectant.	Clinician
Auriscope	Use disposable earpieces if available, or wash in neutral detergent to remove the wax. Rinse and store dry.	Clinician
Bath	Clean between clients Titan may be used to remove stains.	Clinician Facilities Management Assistant (daily)
Bedding:- Wipe Clean Duvets and Pillows	Clean as for mattress – after each service user use, or when visibly soiled/bodily fluids	See Linen Policy Clinician
Bed frames	Clean with high level disinfectant	On discharge or if contaminated with body fluids - Clinician Weekly – Facilities Management Assistant

Bedpans	Disposable single use – empty contents in toilet and dispose of into appropriate waste stream	Clinician
Bedpan Holders	Clean with high level disinfectant wipes/ disposable	Clinician
BiPAP Sleep apnoea machine	Single patient use Follow manufacturer instructions. Clean the outside of the machine weekly with disinfectant wipes.	Clinician
Blood Glucose	Clean after every use as per	Clinician
Monitoring Machine	Manufacturer's Instructions.	Clinician
Blood Pressure Cuffs	Wipe with neutral detergent or disinfectant wipe between each service user, Use a dedicated cuff for a known infectious service user, which can be washed or disposed of at the end of care episode or use a single use cuff.	Clinician
Bowls (washing)	Use disposable wash bowls	Clinician
Brushes		
Hairbrushes	Individual use only. Wash in neutral detergent, rinse and leave to dry.	Service user/Clinician Hairdresser- please contact Infection Prevention and Control Team for guidance on cleaning equipment.
Lavatory brushes	Rinse in flushing water and store dry. Toilet brush holder Facilities Management Assistant should be cleaned once a week with high level disinfectant and when visibly soiled	Facilities Management Assistant
Nailbrushes	Individual use only.	Service user/Clinician
Shaving brushes	Individual use only.	Service user/Clinician
Toothbrushes	Individual use only.	Service user/Clinician

Buckets	Wash with neutral detergent (with mop-buckets, ensure that the wringer removed and is cleaned thoroughly), rinse and dry before storing inverted.	Facilities Management Assistant
Carpets	Vacuum daily, periodically clean by hot water extraction and carpet shampoo, or following gross spillage with high level disinfectant.	Facilities Management Assistant Following bodily fluid spillage - Clinician
Catheters	Single use – dispose of into appropriate waste stream	Clinician
Catheter Stands	Wash daily with neutral detergent, rinse and dry. If contaminated by body fluid, clean with a solution of high level disinfectant	Clinician
Chiropody instruments	Single use instruments to be used	Clinician
Cleaning Cloths	Must be disposable.	Facilities Management Assistant
Combs	Individual use. Wash in neutral detergent, rinse and leave to dry	Service user/Clinician
Commodes	Clean with high level disinfectant between use. Individual named service user use preferred. (ICT approved wipes may be used)	Clinician
Cot Sides	Clean with high level disinfectant.	Clinician
Crockery/Cutlery	Use Dishwasher	Facilities Management Assistant or Clinician As per local arrangements
Curtains	Must be washed/dry cleaned, steam cleaned six monthly. Must be washed/dry cleaned, steam cleaned after outbreak of Norovirus/C. diff as part of terminal cleaning – see policy	Facilities Management Assistant

Dental Equipment & Instruments	All Medical devices associated with dental care must be decontaminated in line with the local standard operating procedures	Dental Nurse
Dish Cloths	Use green disposable dish cloths	Facilities Management Assistant/ Clinician
Drainage Bags	Empty contents into toilet and dispose of bag and tubing into appropriate waste stream.	Clinician
Dressing Trolley	Clean with high level disinfectant before and after use.	Clinician
Drip Stands	Damp dust with neutral detergent if contaminated with body fluids, clean with high level disinfectant	Clinician
Examination Couches	Cover with disposable paper roll and change between service users. Clean with high level disinfectant or disinfectant wipes after each session	Clinician
Enteral Feeding Pumps/Equipment	Wash with neutral detergent, rinse and dry with paper towels, or follow manufacturer's instructions.	Clinician
Enteral Feeding Tube	The feeding tube should be flushed with fresh tap water, before and after feeding or administering medication. Enteral feeding tubes for service users who are immunosuppressed, should be flushed with either cooled freshly boiled water, or sterile water from a freshly opened container.	Clinician
Feeding cups	Use dishwasher	Facilities Management Assistant/ Clinician
Floors (dry-Carpet)	Vacuum clean. (hepa-filtered preferred)	Facilities Management Assistant

Floors (Wet)	Contain spillage then mop or shampoo. If body fluid spillage use high level disinfectant.	Facilities Management Assistant Bodily Fluids – Clinician
Laryngoscope	Single use/ handle to be cleaned with approved disinfectant wipes between patient use.	Clinician
Locker Tops/Tables	Clean with high level disinfectant	Facilities Management Assistant Lockers cleaned by Clinician on Discharge/Transfer
Linen	Follow Linen Policy	Clinician
Masks and O2 Tubing	Individual service user use only, which is changed when dirty and discarded in appropriate waste stream.	Clinician
Mattresses	Clean mattress monthly with high level disinfectant and after every episode of incontinence and when a service user is transferred or discharged. For special mattresses – follow manufacturer’s instructions.	Clinician
Medicine Pots	Single use.	Clinician
Mops (floor)	Rinse well after each use and store inverted to dry. Change and launder daily, or use disposable mop heads	Facilities Management Assistant
Moving and Handling Board	Clean with high level disinfectant. after each use	Clinician
Nail Clippers	Individual service user use or disposable.	Clinician
Nebuliser Mask	Individual use only. Wash in neutral detergent after every use , rinse and leave to dry, cover between therapies.	Clinician
Acorn and Tubing	Wash in neutral detergent and rinse and hang tubing to dry after every use .	Clinician

Ophthalmoscopes	Wipe with neutral detergent or follow manufacturer's instructions.	Clinician
Oxygen Cylinder Frames	Use neutral detergent, and dry with paper towel.	Clinician
Patella Hammer	Wipe with neutral detergent after each use.	Clinician
Peak Flow Meter	Use single use disposable mouth pieces with filters.	Clinician
Razors	Use disposable or single service user use electric razors. Follow manufacturer's instructions for cleaning electric razor-heads and disposable razors to be placed in sharps box	Clinician Barber/Hairdresser- please contact Infection Prevention and Control for guidance.
Scissors	For clinical procedures, use single use disposable scissors	Clinician
Shower	If not regularly used, flush as per Legionella policy. Clean between service users' use	Daily – Facilities Management Assistant Between service user - Clinician
Slip Sheets, Hoist Slings (Moving & Handling)	Single person use only, mark with clients name. Send to laundry when soiled.	Clinician
Smokerlyzer	Use disposable SteriBreath clinician mouthpiece – dispose into appropriate waste system.	Clinician
Sputum Container	Disposable. Dispose into appropriate waste stream	Clinician
Stethoscopes	Clean diaphragm and ear-pieces with wipe after every use.	Clinician
Stoma bags	Single use, dispose of via appropriate waste stream.	Clinician
Syringes	Single use	Clinician
Suction Units	Use disposable liners and catheters. Wash bottles with neutral detergent, rinse and dry using paper towel.	Clinician

Surgical Instruments (Minor surgery)	Single use only, dispose into appropriate waste stream	Clinician
Tablet Cutters	Wash thoroughly between use with neutral detergent and dry with paper towel	Clinician
Thermometers	Use disposable thermometers or those with a disposable sleeve. Digital – use a new sleeve cover for each use. See manufacturer’s instructions to clean thermometer.	Clinician
Urine Jugs	Disposable single use – empty contents in toilet and dispose of into appropriate waste stream	Clinician
Volumatics	Single service user use. Wash in neutral detergent monthly, allow to air dry (do not wipe dry) Rees, J., Kanabar, D. (2007)	Clinician
Wheelchairs	Individual service user use, whenever possible. Wash daily with neutral detergent, rinse and dry. If contaminated with body fluids clean with a solution of high level disinfectant.	Clinician
Weighing Scales (seated adult)	Line with disposable paper towels. Clean with neutral detergent daily and keep dry. If contaminated with bodily fluids, clean with high level disinfectant. N.B Class 111 scales should be used and these should be subject to servicing and calibration as per manufacturers instructions.	Clinician