



DIAPERING RECOMMENDATIONS CHILD CARE

COMMUNITY CARE FACILITIES LICENSING PROGRAM

Diapering can be a positive experience, a time when the caregiver and child have an opportunity to spend quality time together. Diapering routines meet the physical needs of young children, in addition to the emotional and psychological needs for communication, security, attention and physical closeness.

Remember your diapering objectives:

- Prevent the spread of communicable disease among staff, children and their families.
- Give adequate skin care and comfort to each child.
- Store clean diapers and dispose of soiled ones properly.
- Keeping the children safe during diapering.
- Separate the diapering area from the food preparation area.

Diapering Procedure:

1. Assemble supplies.
2. Place child on clean, sturdy changing surface, located away from the food preparation area, next to a covered container for soiled clothing and a wash basin.
3. Children must be supervised at all times on diaper changing surface. Be sure to follow manufacturer's instructions with regards to any equipment used [tables, changing pads, etc.].
4. Remove soiled diaper and fold soiled surface inward. Cloth diapers: if diaper pins are used, close each pin immediately. Keep pins away from children.
5. Cleanse skin with single use cloth, moving from front to back. Remove all soil, do not overlook skin creases. Diaper creams and skin-care product should only be used if parent specifically requests them (some doctors believe these products may interfere with proper skin cleaning).
6. Fasten clean diaper in place.
7. Remove solid matter in diapers and dispose in the toilet. Place soiled cloth diapers in waste container. Soiled cloth diapers should go into a plastic bag. Store in a labelled second plastic bag. Returned soiled cloth diapers to parents at the end of the day. If a disposable liner is used and the facility is on a septic system, it is important to note that not all liners are safe for septic systems.
8. Clean changing surface and soiled supplies with an appropriate sanitizing solution and single use cloth after each diaper change. See Sanitizer Infosheet for more information.
9. Staff and children must wash hands thoroughly with soap and running water for thirty seconds after each diaper change.
10. Report abnormal skin or stool conditions to parents (rash, unusual fecal consistency, colour, odour, or frequency).

Equipment:

Changing Surface

Keep the changing surface away from children, preferably three feet (approximately one metre) from the floor. Cover it with a smooth, moisture-resistant, easily cleanable material. For extra protection, use single-service covers for each child. The diapering surface should be checked regularly to ensure there are no rips or tears that would impact proper sanitation.

Hand-Wash Sink and Towels

The best hand wash sink is one equipped with both hot and cold running water mixed through one faucet [hot water temperatures not greater than 120°F or 49°C]. Water controls should be foot, knee or wrist operated, to avoid contamination. The sink must be next to the changing surface as per the Child Care Licensing Regulation. Use liquid soap and single-service towels (e.g., paper towels) instead of hand towels to prevent cross contamination. Keep soap and towels nearby.

Diapers

Cloth diapers require more handling than disposable diapers. The more handling required, the greater chances of infection. When cloth diapers are used, carefully store clean diapers to avoid contact with dirty diapers.

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Skin-Care Items

Keep changing supplies and skin-care items out of reach of the child, but accessible to the changing surface and the care provider. Use cloths and towels only once and then launder or throw away. Many disposable diapering cloths are available.

Waster Container

Use a tightly-covered plastic container with a foot-operated lid. Line the container with a disposable trash bag. Keep it away from children. Remove soiled diapers daily. The covered container must be next to the diaper changing surface as per the Child Care Licensing Regulation.

Potty Chairs

Chair frames should be smooth and easily cleanable. The waste container should be removable and cleaned after every use. Sanitize the chair and frame on a frequent basis.

Cleaning Supplies

1. Single use cloths.
2. Disinfecting chemical solution – 5 ml. of household bleach per 300 ml. of tap Water. Mix a fresh supply daily and keep in a labelled spray bottle. Keep out of reach of children.