Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Cleaning and Disinfection for Public Settings

This document provides guidance on cleaning and disinfection of public settings, including schools, transit, colleges/universities, recreational facilities and other workplaces.

What you should know

- Commonly used cleaners and disinfectants are effective against COVID-19.
- Frequently touched surfaces are most likely to be contaminated.
- Use only disinfectants that have a Drug Identification Number (DIN). A DIN is an 8-digit number given by Health Canada that confirms it is approved for use in Canada.
- Check the expiry date of products you use and always follow manufacturer's instructions.

Clean frequently touched surfaces twice per day

- In addition to routine cleaning, surfaces that have frequent contact with hands should be cleaned and disinfected twice per day and when visibly dirty.
- Examples include doorknobs, elevator buttons, light switches, toilet handles, counters, hand rails, touch screen surfaces and keypads.
- In addition to routine cleaning, check with your organization for any specific protocols for cleaning for COVID-19.

Select products

Cleaners

- Break down grease and remove organic material from the surface.
- Used separately before using disinfectants.
- Can be purchased with cleaner and disinfectant combined in a single product.

Disinfectants

- Have chemicals that kill most germs.
- Applied after the surfaces have been cleaned.
- Have a drug identification number (DIN).

Disinfectant Wipes

- Have combined cleaners and disinfectants in one solution.
- May become dry due to fast drying properties. Should be discarded if they become dry.
- Not recommended for heavily soiled surfaces.
- Have a drug identification number (DIN).

Prepare products for use

- Where possible, use pre-mixed solution.
- Read and follow manufacturer's instructions to:
  - properly prepare solution
  - allow adequate contact time for disinfectant to kill germs (see product label)
  - wear gloves when handling cleaning products including wipes
  - wear any other personal protective equipment recommended by the manufacturer

Sanitizing Solution

List of disinfecting agents and their working concentrations known to be effective against coronaviruses[1,2]:

Agent and concentration	Uses
1. 1:100 dilution Chlorine: **Bleach – sodium hypochlorite (5.25%)** 500 ppm solution 10 ml bleach to 990 ml water	Used for disinfecting surfaces and common touch surfaces equipment (e.g. counters, door knobs, Allow surface to air dry naturally
2. 1:50 dilution Chlorine: **Bleach - sodium hypochlorite (5.25%)** 1,000ppm solution 20 ml bleach to 980 ml water	Used for disinfecting surfaces contaminated with bodily fluids and waste (e.g. vomit, diarrhea, mucus, feces) (after cleaning with soap and water first). Allow surface to air dry naturally.
3. Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide 0.5%	Used for cleaning and disinfecting surfaces. Most products cannot be diluted. Follow manufacturer's instructions.
4. Quaternary Ammonium Compounds (QUATs)	Used for cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces (e.g. floors, walls, furnishings). Most products cannot be diluted. Follow manufacturer's instructions.

[1] *Dellanno, Christine, Quinn Vega, and Diane Boesenberg. "The antiviral action of common household disinfectants and antiseptics against murine hepatitis virus, a potential surrogate for SARS coronavirus." American journal of infection control 37.8 (2009): 649-652.*

[2] *Provincial Infection Prevention Control Network of British Columbia. "Infection Prevention and Control Guidelines for Providing Healthcare to Clients Living in the Community." (2014).* https://www.picnet.ca/wp-content/uploads/PICNet_Home_and_Community_Care_Guidelines_2014_.pdf

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