

Instructions for Cleaning Equipment: Low Level Disinfection

**Beaumont Hospital, Dearborn
Infection Prevention & Control**

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Beaumont

Low Level Disinfection

- Low level disinfection (LLD) is appropriate for any **non-critical items that only come in contact with intact skin**
- These items **do not** require High Level Disinfection (HLD) or Sterilization
- Use a hospital-approved disinfectant **per manufacturer's instructions for device or equipment**
- **Use enough wipes** for the treated surface to remain visibly wet for the contact time required
- When using the disinfectant wipes, **wipe in one direction**. Do not wipe back and forth!
- **Clean shared patient equipment between each use!**

Standard Precautions

- Consider all blood and body fluids as potentially infectious
- **Healthcare workers must always use personal protective equipment (PPE) as appropriate to the task or procedure**
- Clean up spills promptly



PPE

- Gloves
- Gown
- Face shield
- Mask



When using these products, refer to the manufacturer's instructions, for the personal protective equipment (PPE)



Examples of products requiring LLD

- Vital Machines
- Bedside Commodes
- Bladder Scanners
- Glucometers
- Doppler (Probe Tip)
- IV Poles
- IVACS
- Manual BP Cuffs
- Recliner Chairs
- Pill Crushers
- Standing Scales
- Stethoscopes
- Telemetry Leads and Monitors
- Thermometers-Probes
- Thermometers-Temporal
- Ultrasound Probes
- Vein Finders
- Etc.

ALWAYS refer to manufacture's instructions for use for picking best disinfection product. These recommendations are generally applicable to most equipment

Contact Time

AKA Wet Time, Dwell Time

- Time a disinfectant is in direct contact with a surface or item to be disinfected.
- For surface disinfection, **this period starts at the application of the disinfectant to the surface and ends when complete drying has occurred.**
- For disinfectant wipes to work properly, the surface or the item **must be wet for the duration of time specified on the canister**

Common Disinfectant Wipes



Sani-Cloth AF3

GRAY TOP

- Alcohol-Free Quat

3 Minute Contact Time



Super Sani-Cloth

PURPLE TOP

- High-Alcohol Quat

2 Minute Contact Time



Sani-Cloth BLEACH

ORANGE TOP

- Kills *C.diff* spores

4 Minute Contact Time

Other disinfectants

- Virex 256 → 10 min contact time
- Clorox Bleach Wipes → 5 min contact time



These products are mostly used by EVS, but may be used by other departments for specific purposes. Consult with Infection Control.



Automated Vital Machines, Glucometer, Manual BP Cuffs, Thermometers



- Remove any debris with disinfectant wipes
- Clean and disinfect with disinfectant wipes
 - Replace any probe covers before each use
 - Disposable BP cuffs are not to be disinfected; **only one to be used per patient, and it must be discarded after no longer in use**

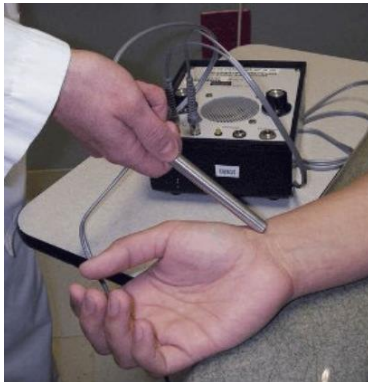
Bedside Commodes, IV Poles, Recliner Chairs, Standing Scale

- Remove any debris with disinfectant wipes
 - Nursing to take care of contents within commode
- Clean and disinfect with disinfectant wipes



Bladder Scanner, Doppler (Probe Tip), Vein Finder

- Remove any debris with disinfectant wipes
 - Wipe off gel with soft cloth
- Clean and disinfect with disinfectant wipes
 - Doppler Probe should be rinsed with water to remove any residue, and then placed in a single-use plastic cover



IVACs, Life Pack, Telemetry Cables & Leads

- Remove any debris with disinfectant wipes
- Clean and disinfect with disinfectant wipes



Pill Crusher, Phones, Stethoscopes

- Remove any debris with disinfectant wipes
- Clean and disinfectant with alcohol or disinfectant wipes
 - Pill Crusher should be cleaned before each use



Ultrasound Probe

1. New probe cover used with each use
2. Remove any debris with disinfectant wipes
3. Clean and disinfect with disinfectant wipes
4. Remember to disinfect the cord as well



Low level disinfection ONLY
for probes used on intact skin

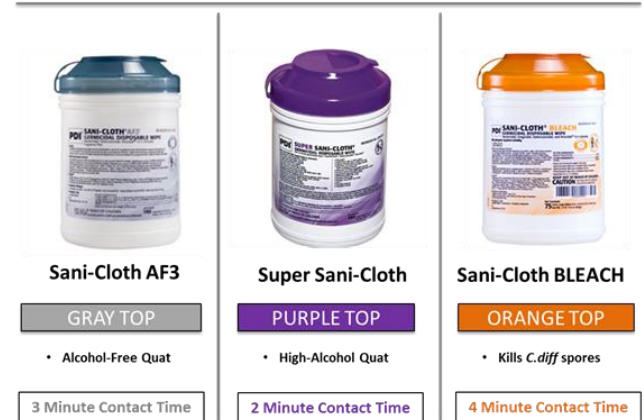
Other

- Surfaces
- Crash Carts
- WOWs
- Stretchers
- Wheelchair
- Etc.



Summary

For patient care items that are only used for contact with intact skin (non-critical items):



- Use the disinfectant wipe that is appropriate for the product following manufacture’s instructions and the IC policy.
- Any items used in a Contact Isolation room should be wiped with bleach if possible; follow manufacturer’s instructions for product.
- Use enough wipes to keep the surface of device or equipment wet for the required contact time.
- Wipe device or equipment in one direction; do not wipe back and forth!
- Disinfect any shared-patient equipment between each patient use!
- Keeping our patient’s safe is everyone’s responsibility!