

Facility Name:

**Disinfection of Environmental Surfaces and Clinical Equipment  
Updated: May 1, 2009 for H1N1 Influenza Outbreak**

**Guideline: H1N1 Influenza Virus (flu) Update: Illness resulting in humans from H1N1 Influenza Virus is caused by an influenza A type virus.** EPA registers pesticide products, including disinfectants. As part of the registration process, EPA evaluates the product efficacy to make sure the public health label claims are accurate. Currently, over 500 disinfectant products are registered for use on hard, non-porous surfaces against influenza A viruses. EPA believes, based on available scientific information, that the currently registered influenza A virus products will be effective against the 2009-H1N1 flu strain and other influenza A virus strains on hard, non-porous surfaces. For safe and effective use of these products, always follow label instructions for these products, paying special attention to the product's dilution rate (if applicable) and contact time.

Choose a product whose label states that it is effective against "Influenza A virus" and lists your specific site of concern, such as: farm premises, hospitals and other healthcare facilities, schools, offices or homes.

As the CDC stresses, your first line of defense is to wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use an alcohol-based cleaner. These registered disinfectant products are for use on hard, non-porous surfaces, such as door knobs, handles, tables, floors, etc. EPA emphasizes that these products are not to be used on the skin or to be taken orally.

Clinical and environmental staff shall clean and disinfect environmental surfaces and non-critical patient care items and equipment utilizing the PDI Sani-Cloth<sup>®</sup> Germicidal Disposable cloth. The Sani-Cloth<sup>®</sup> Germicidal Disposable cloths are EPA accepted for hospital disinfection. The frequency of cleaning is determined by the degree of risk of infection transmission. "High touch" surfaces shall be cleaned on a more frequent basis than minimal touch surfaces. Recommendations on frequency of disinfection can be found in the attached table. Appropriate use of Sani-Cloth<sup>®</sup> Germicidal Disposable cloths will facilitate compliance with the regulations and standards as listed below.

Approval Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Revision Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

**Facility Name:**

**Disinfection of Environmental Surfaces and Clinical Equipment  
Updated: May 1, 2009 for H1N1 Influenza Outbreak**

**References:**

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): Interim Guidance for Infection Control for Care of Patients with Confirmed or Suspected H1N1 Influenza Virus A (H1N1) Virus Infection in a Healthcare Setting:** *Standard, droplet, and contact precautions should be used for all patient care activities, and maintained for 7 days after illness onset, or until symptoms have resolved. Maintain adherence to hand hygiene by washing with soap and water or using hand sanitizer immediately after removing gloves and other equipment and after any contact with respiratory secretions.*

**Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Bloodborne Pathogen Standard:** *Employers shall provide work practice controls and housekeeping practices to reduce likelihood of exposure to bloodborne pathogens.*

**Department of Public Health:** *Facilities must provide a safe, functional, sanitary and comfortable environment for the residents, staff and the public. The facility must establish and maintain an infection control program designed to help prevent the development and transmission of disease and infection.*

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): Guidelines for Environmental Infection Control in Health Care Facilities:** *Clean and disinfect "high touch" surfaces on a more frequent schedule than minimal touch surfaces. Use a one-step process with an EPA approved hospital disinfectant designed for housekeeping purposes in patient care areas.*

**Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO): National Patient Safety Goals:** *Reduce the risk of healthcare associated infections. Reduce the risk of influenza and pneumococcal disease in older adults.*

**Definitions:**

Environmental surfaces: Horizontal surfaces that come in contact with patients, staff, or visitors. Examples of such high touched surfaces may include, but are not limited to, tables, beds, bed rails, chairs, ledges, lights, light switches and countertops.

Approval Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Revision Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

**Facility Name:**

**Disinfection of Environmental Surfaces and Clinical Equipment  
Updated: May 1, 2009 for H1N1 Influenza Outbreak**

Non-Critical items and equipment: Those items that come in contact with intact skin but not with mucous membranes or equipment that is shared between patients, such as blood pressure cuffs, stethoscopes, IV poles, IV pumps, battery operated thermometers, monitors, utility carts, stretchers, wheelchairs, telephones, computer keyboards, linen hampers, etc.

**Equipment Needed:**

PDI Sani-Cloth<sup>®</sup> Germicidal Disposable Cloth  
Gloves

**Directions for Use:**

Steps

1. Wearing gloves clean and disinfect environmental surfaces and patient care equipment with a Sani-Cloth<sup>®</sup> Germicidal Disposable cloth. For visibly soiled surfaces, clean first with one disinfecting cloth and use a second wipe for the disinfection process.
2. Non-critical items, equipment, or surfaces shall be disinfected between patients, after each shift, daily, weekly, or monthly according to a written schedule.
3. In rooms of patients on isolation precautions, non-critical items and equipment will be disinfected at least daily

Key Points

- a. Use Sani-Cloth<sup>®</sup> Germicidal Disposable cloth according to manufacturer's instructions.
- b. Allow surfaces to air dry to allow for sufficient contact time to kill the microorganisms.
- c. Refer to attached table for Recommendations on Frequency of Disinfection.
- d. Refer to attached listing of Areas of Use for Sani-Cloth<sup>®</sup> disinfecting cloth.
- e. Sani-Cloth<sup>®</sup> Disinfecting cloth are effective against several multi-drug resistant organisms.

Approval Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Revision Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Facility Name:

**Disinfection of Environmental Surfaces and Clinical Equipment**

**Updated: May 1, 2009 for H1N1 Influenza Outbreak**

and upon removal from  
room.

4. Discard disinfecting cloth into regular trash
- f. Sani-Cloth<sup>®</sup> Disinfecting cloth are disposable and should be disposed of per your facility's protocol.

Approval Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Revision Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Facility Name:

**Disinfection of Environmental Surfaces and Clinical Equipment**  
**Updated: May 1, 2009 for H1N1 Influenza Outbreak**  
**DISINFECTION OF PATIENT CARE ITEMS**

ITEM	FREQUENCY OF DISINFECTION			ITEM	FREQUENCY OF DISINFECTION		
	AFTER PT. USE	DAILY	WEEKLY		AFTER PT. USE	DAILY	WEEKLY
IV Poles	X	X (1)		Shower transfer benches			X
IV Pumps/Controllers	X	X(1)		Bicycles/Treadmills (Rehab)			X
Electronic Thermometers	X			Anesthesia Carts/Machines			X
Blood Glucose Monitors	X			Phlebotomy chairs	X (2)	X	
Bed Rails		X		Telephones		X	
Monitors	X	X(1)		Centrifuges			X
EKG Machines		X		Lab Specimen Baskets/holders			X
EKG Leads		X		Medication Carts/Trays		X	
Med Carts		X		Mayo trays/stands	X(2)	X	
Stethoscopes	X			Isolation Carts	X		
Otosopes/Ophthalmoscope	X			Pulmonary Function Machines	X		
Blood Pressure Cuff/Units	X			IV Team Baskets/Carts		X	
Ventilators	X	X(1)		Emergency/ Crash Carts	X		
Incubators/Bassinets	X	X(1)		Exercise Mats		X	
Ultrasound probe (doppler)	X			Weights (Rehab)		X	
Exam Tables/Chairs	X(2)	X		Wheelchairs	X (2)		X
Infant Scales	X			Stair railings (Rehab)		X	
Procedure Tables	X (2)	X		Activity Balls/Games (Rehab)		X	
Toys/Play Areas	X	X		Walkers/Canes		X	
Gurneys/Stretchers	X (2)		X	Massage Tables	X(2)	X	
Procedural Carts		X		Countertops		X	
Procedural Lamps		X		Work Stations		X	
Radiology machines			X	Utility Rooms		X	
Mammography Units	X (3)		X				
Radiology tables	X(2)	X					

**Facility Name:**

**Disinfection of Environmental Surfaces and Clinical Equipment**

**Updated: May 1, 2009 for H1N1 Influenza Outbreak**

**ALL PATIENT CARE EQUIPMENT MUST BE DISINFECTED AFTER USE IN PATIENTS ON ISOLATION PRECAUTIONS**

- (1) Item/equipment should be disinfected daily while in patient use
- (2) Item/equipment covered with sheet, table paper or other protective covering need daily disinfection. If no protective covering or soiled with blood/body fluids, equipment should be disinfected after patient use.
- (3) Parts of unit that is in direct contact with breast must be disinfected after patient use

**Facility Name:**

**Disinfection of Environmental Surfaces and Clinical Equipment  
Updated: May 1, 2009 for H1N1 Influenza Outbreak**