

Congregate Living Organizations Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Community of Practice

June 17, 2021, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

South West Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Hub Update

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The SW IPAC Hub is ...

- Part of the province's comprehensive plan, Keeping Ontarians Safe Preparing for Future Waves of COVID-19
- Supporting the coordination and prioritization of service provision among local partners, who have IPAC expertise to enable congregate living organizations/settings access to IPAC expertise, collaborative assistance, just-in-time advice, guidance and direct support on IPAC practices. This support may include, but is not limited to:
 - IPAC Education and Training
 - IPAC Communities of Practice
 - Development of IPAC programs, policies and procedures
 - Assessments and audits of IPAC Programs and Practices
 - Recommendations related to IPAC Programs and Practices
 - Coaching related to IPAC Service Delivery within Settings
 - Development of Outbreak Management Plans
 - Support with Implementation of IPAC Recommendations

The South West IPAC Hubs: Areas of Coverage



**SW IPAC Hub
Activities**

486

**Individual IPAC Services
(Remote and On-site)
January 31, 2020 – May 28, 2021**

South West IPAC Hub Contacts

To access advice, guidance, support, and/or consultation for non-urgent IPAC needs via your local IPAC Hub, please contact:

South West IPAC Hub:

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Congregate Living Organizations
Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC)
Community of Practice – Session 3:
Environmental Cleaning

IPAC Regional Support West Team

June 17, 2021

Overview

- Introduction to environmental cleaning
- Review of sections related to environmental cleaning in the PHO Checklist [COVID-19 Preparedness and Prevention Checklist for Congregate Living Settings](#)
- Discussion of current issues and challenges applying these principles to your setting

Cleaning Agents and Disinfection

- Cleaning is the removal of dirt/debris/contaminants from a surface or object:
 - Using water, detergent and mechanical action.
 - Items must be thoroughly cleaned prior to disinfection.
- Disinfection kills microorganisms on inanimate objects and/or surfaces:
 - Does not kill spores, but may kill most microorganisms.

Product Selection

- Limit the number of products used in your setting
- Cleaners
 - Break down grease and remove organic materials
 - Used separately before using disinfectant
 - Available as a cleaner and disinfectant combined in one product
- Disinfectants
 - Chemicals kill germs
 - Applied after surfaces are cleaned
 - Have a drug identification number (DIN)

Product Selection cont.

- Disinfectant Wipes
 - Combined cleaners and disinfectants in one solution
 - May become dry due to fast drying properties
 - Ensure lids of wipes of snapped shut when not in use
 - Discard if wipes become dry
 - Not recommended for heavily soiled surfaces

General Considerations for Use of Disinfectants

- Drug Identification Number (DIN)
- Usage
- Contact time
- Shelf life
- Storage
- Mix appropriately
- PPE
- User friendly (low toxicity, odourless)



Source: Health Canada. Hard-surface disinfectants and hand sanitizers (COVID-19): List of disinfectants with evidence for use against COVID-19 [Internet]. Ottawa, ON: Government of Canada; 2020 [modified 2020 May 15; cited 2020 May 21]. Available from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/disinfectants/covid-19/list.html>

Prepare products for use

- Where possible, use pre-mixed solution
- Read and follow manufacturer's instructions to:
 - Properly prepare solution
 - Allow adequate contact time (time the surface remains wet) to kill germs (see product label)
 - Wear gloves when handling cleaning products including wipes
 - Wear any other personal protective equipment (PPE) recommended by the manufacturer

Use bleach safely

- Bleach is not a cleaning agent. Surfaces must be clean in order for bleach to disinfect
- Only dilute bleach by adding water, not other chemicals
- Bleach usually comes as 5.25% or ~50,000 parts per million sodium hypochlorite
- For low level disinfection bleach should be diluted to 100ppm or 0.01%

Use bleach safely cont.

- Store bleach solutions in closed, labeled containers, away from heat and light.
- Dilute bleach with water immediately before use
- Use the solution the same day

For more information on how to dilute bleach (e.g., to 100 ppm or 0.01%), see the [Chlorine Dilution Calculator](#).

Safe work practices

- No food or drink should be kept in housekeeping closets or near chemicals
- Perform hand hygiene with alcohol-based hand rub or wash with soap and water if hands are visibly soiled
- Do not substitute gloves for hand hygiene. Hands should be cleaned after removing gloves.
- Wear personal protective equipment (PPE) indicated by product instructions

Safe work practices cont.

- Always read and follow the manufacturers label
- Do not mix products together
- If using more than one product make sure they are safe to use together. (e.g., it is dangerous to mix a quaternary ammonium product and bleach).
- Do not use spray or trigger bottles for cleaning products or disinfectants.

General Cleaning Practices

- Start with low touch areas and move to high touch areas
- Remove gross debris/dirt before cleaning/disinfection
- Never shake mops, no double dipping
- No top up of soaps/liquids/cleaner containers
- Remove gloves and clean hands after exiting room

Checklist



CHECKLIST

COVID-19 Preparedness and Prevention in Congregate Living Settings

2nd Revision: May 2021

Who Should Use This Checklist

This checklist can be used by administrators and staff members in a range of congregate living settings (e.g., shelters, group homes, supportive housing). Although not specific for correctional facilities, some of the items on the checklist may be applicable to these settings. This checklist is not intended for use in long-term care facilities (a specific checklist exists for [long-term care facilities](#)¹).

When to Use This Checklist

This checklist can be used to help plan for and prevent COVID-19 in congregate living settings. It is to be used in addition to - but does not replace - the advice, guidance, recommendations, directives or other direction of provincial Ministries and local public health units. See the [Ministry of Health's COVID-19 Guidance](#)²: Congregate Living for Vulnerable Populations. Additional resources are also available on [Public Health Ontario's website](#)³. This checklist was developed using documents listed under Sources.

If there is a case of COVID-19 in your facility or an outbreak may be occurring based on ill residents, staff and/or visitors, contact your local public health unit and refer to the [Managing COVID-19 Outbreaks in Congregate Living Settings checklist](#)⁴.

How to Use This Checklist

When using the checklist, the status column can be marked as follows to indicate:

C = complete

IP = in progress

NA = not applicable

7	Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC)	Status C/IP/NA	Notes
7.3	<p>Cleaning and disinfection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently touched surfaces are cleaned and disinfected twice daily. <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate cleaning products are used (usual cleaning products are generally appropriate) and the products remain on surfaces for the appropriate length of time (contact time). <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure adequate supplies are on hand. <input type="checkbox"/> There is regular schedule for cleaning all surfaces that is posted on the wall. <input type="checkbox"/> Residents' mattresses and living spaces are cleaned and disinfected between residents. <input type="checkbox"/> Shared equipment is cleaned and disinfected after use by each person (for electronic equipment, ensure that cleaning products will not damage the equipment). <input type="checkbox"/> Shared items that are difficult to clean have been removed. <p>A key resource is Cleaning and Disinfection for Public Settings.</p>		
7.4	<p>Laundry and bedding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Gloves are worn when handling dirty laundry if likely to touch items contaminated with blood or body fluid. Gowns can be added if likely to contaminate your clothing. Handle laundry gently without shaking. <input type="checkbox"/> Regular laundry soap and hot water (60°C-90°C) are used for laundering. <input type="checkbox"/> Residents have their own clean bedding and towels, which are not shared. <input type="checkbox"/> Bedding and towels are washed on a regular schedule for residents who stay in the facility. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change bedding every one to two weeks • Change bath towels after used about three times. 		

<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/ncov/cong/2020/05/covid-19-preparedness-prevention-congregate-living-settings.pdf?la=en>

Clean frequently touched surfaces twice per day

- 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



Examples of frequently touched surfaces



Linen and bedding

- No special precautions are required
- Residents' mattresses and living spaces are cleaned and disinfected between residents
- Gloves are worn when handling dirty laundry
- Handle laundry gently without shaking
- Regular laundry soap and hot water are used
- Residents have their own clean bedding and towels, which are not shared
- Bedding and towels are washed on a regular schedule

Waste

- No special handling of waste from isolation rooms
- Waste from isolation rooms may be discarded with general household waste
- Follow protocols for disposal of sharps container (if one present)

Monitoring cleaning

- There is a regular schedule posted for cleaning all surfaces
- Include items that have to be cleaned and disinfected on the list
- Have staff member complete checklist and initial after cleaning is completed

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