

# COVID-19 Q&A Hour for Long Term Care: Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Program

Shoreline, WA

# Housekeeping



Attendees will be in listen only mode



Self-mute your lines when not speaking



Type questions into the question window. Please include the type of facility you are from in your question (e.g., NH).



Nursing Home

Participants from long-term care, regulatory, public health



No confidential information presented or discussed. This is an educational webinar and does not constitute legal advice.



Local guidance may differ, please consult with your Local Health Jurisdiction (LHJ):

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/AboutUs/PublicHealthSystem/LocalHealthJurisdictions>

# Welcome to the 2021 Q&A Hour!

A chance to connect, ask questions, and learn about the COVID-19 response and infection prevention guidance



2021

# Where Can I Find the Q & A Document?

- Posted every Wednesday

- Washington Health Care Association:

<https://www.whca.org/washington-department-of-health-covid-19-qa-session/>

- Washington LeadingAge:

[https://www.leadingagewa.org/ill\\_pubs\\_articles/copy-resources-preparing-your-community-staff-residents-and-families-for-the-coronavirus/](https://www.leadingagewa.org/ill_pubs_articles/copy-resources-preparing-your-community-staff-residents-and-families-for-the-coronavirus/)

- Adult Family Home Council:

<https://adultfamilyhomecouncil.org/department-of-health-qa-webinars/>

# Panelists

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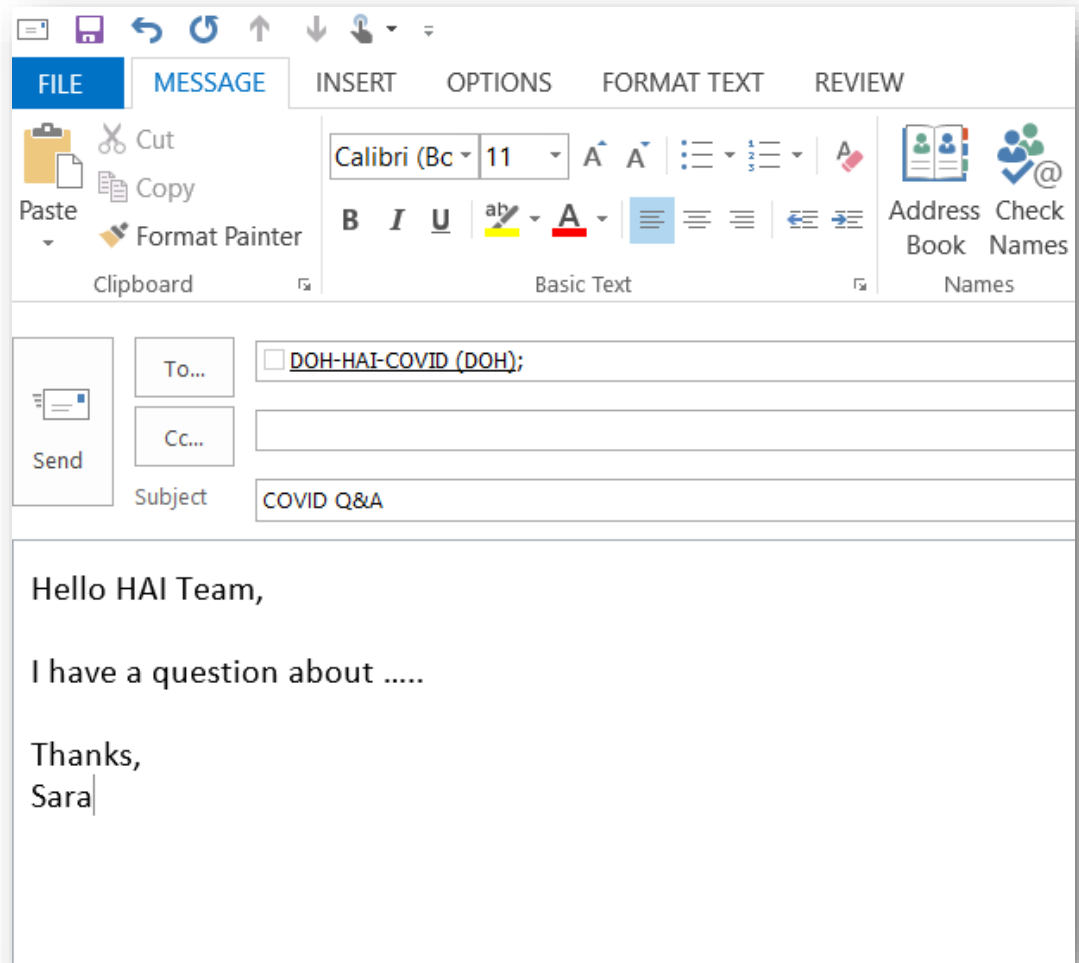


# Send Us Your Questions Ahead of Time

**Subject Line:**  
COVID Q&A

**Email:**  
[HAI-COVID@doh.wa.gov](mailto:HAI-COVID@doh.wa.gov)

**Due by:** COB Tuesday



# Infection Control Assessment & Response (ICAR) Program

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**Free, non-regulatory ICARs are a great opportunity for skilled nursing facilities, adult family homes, and assisted living facilities to:**

- Ask a Department of Health infection prevention expert questions.
- Get help finding gaps in your infection control protocols.
- Receive personalized advice and recommendations for your facility.

**There are multiple ways to schedule an ICAR:**

- Visit <https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/opinio/s?s=ICARconsultation>
- Email Maria Capella-Morales [maria.capella-morales@doh.wa.gov](mailto:maria.capella-morales@doh.wa.gov)
- Email Melissa Feskin [Melissa.Feskin@doh.wa.gov](mailto:Melissa.Feskin@doh.wa.gov)

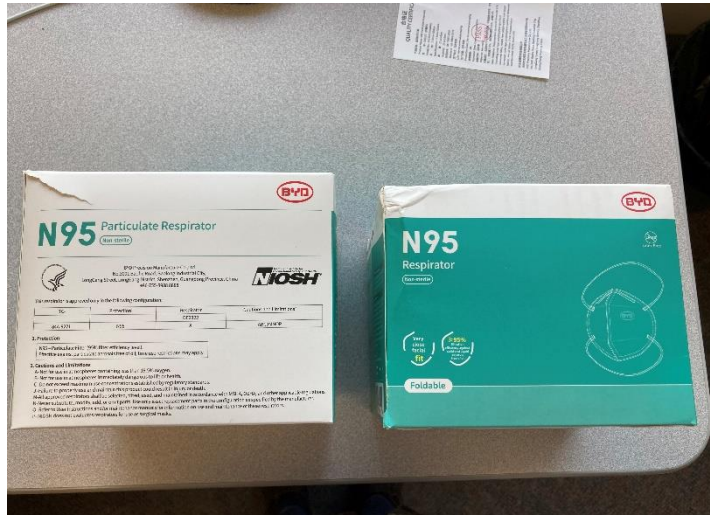
**In partnership with:**

- Local Health Jurisdictions
- LeadingAge Washington
- Washington Health Care Association
- Adult Family Home Council of WA State
- Washington State Hospital Association

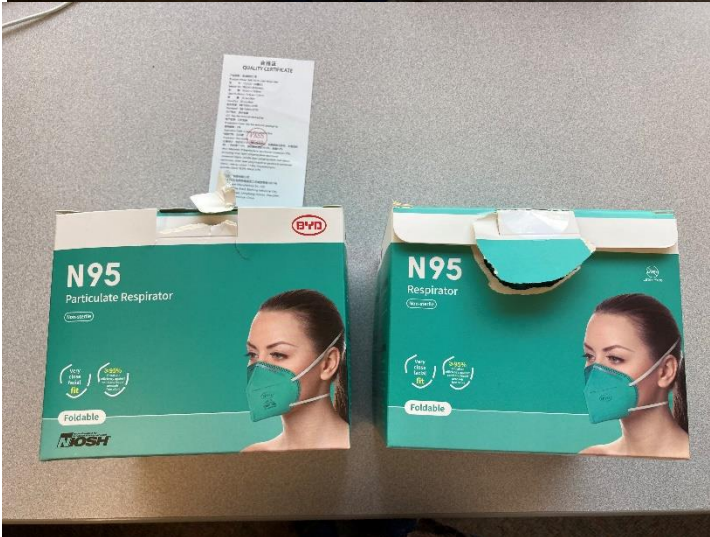




# BYD N95 Respirator Quality Issue



Back of box -  
If white, it is correct product



Front of box



# BYD N95 Respirator

- Check your Respirator – NIOSH one on left is correct version



# Actions to Take for BYD N95 Issues

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- ❖ Stop using pre-NIOSH approved respirator if you have newer version
- ❖ Contact us ([HAI-COVID@doh.wa.gov](mailto:HAI-COVID@doh.wa.gov)) immediately if you have only pre-NIOSH model **AND** providing AGPs or COVID-19 Unit/ Resident with COVID-19. Report how many Caregivers in your facility using BYD N95 model currently. We will coordinate to send NIOSH approved model to your facilities.
- ❖ If anyone notices a loose strap or other quality issues, please let us know **Lot #** and **production date**. Provide the information or take a close-up photo with sticker on the individual package or bottom of the box with a brief description.

# Vaccine Announcements

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1. For federal long term care partner pharmacies like Omnicare and PharMerica, CDC is providing a different vaccine for use while J&J is on hold. Please let us know if you hear concerns or have any concerns.
2. The J&J inpatient discharge pilot has been paused, but some of the organizations are continuing to vaccinate with either Pfizer or Moderna in the interim. Depending on the ACIP recommendations regarding resumption of vaccine use, the plan will be adjusted for the vaccine type and if needed begin to hardwire plans for booster doses access.

# Vaccine Announcements

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3. Ongoing work to ensure the move from clinic to ensure access for vaccine for new residents and staff continues. Our understanding is, most if not all of the long term care pharmacies including PharMerica and Omnicare are continuing their planning/implementation to support this work. If you are having difficulty accessing support for vaccinations, please:
  - Contact your long term care pharmacy to ask about their status/plan
  - Contact your local health jurisdiction since they may have access to mobile teams to support vaccinations
  - Contact the Department of Health through our survey to let us know: [Long Term Care Facilities COVID-19 Vaccine Request Survey \(surveymonkey.com\)](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Long-Term-Care-Facilities-COVID-19-Vaccine-Request-Survey)

# Best Practices for Environmental Services

Skilled Nursing & Assisted Living



## How Cleaning on the Front Lines is Keeping Patients and Providers Safe



## Cleaning crews are healthcare heroes, too



Photo by: Courtesy: Mercy Health

News on your time

## Recognizing the essential role of EVS staff

### Environmental services heroes on the frontline of care

[Home](#) / [About](#) / [Newsroom](#) / [Environmental Services Heroes On...](#)

[Methodist Healthcare](#)

July 24, 2020



Every hour of every day, an Environmental Services (EVS) healthcare hero diligently works to make Methodist Hospital a safe place, free from germs, bacteria and

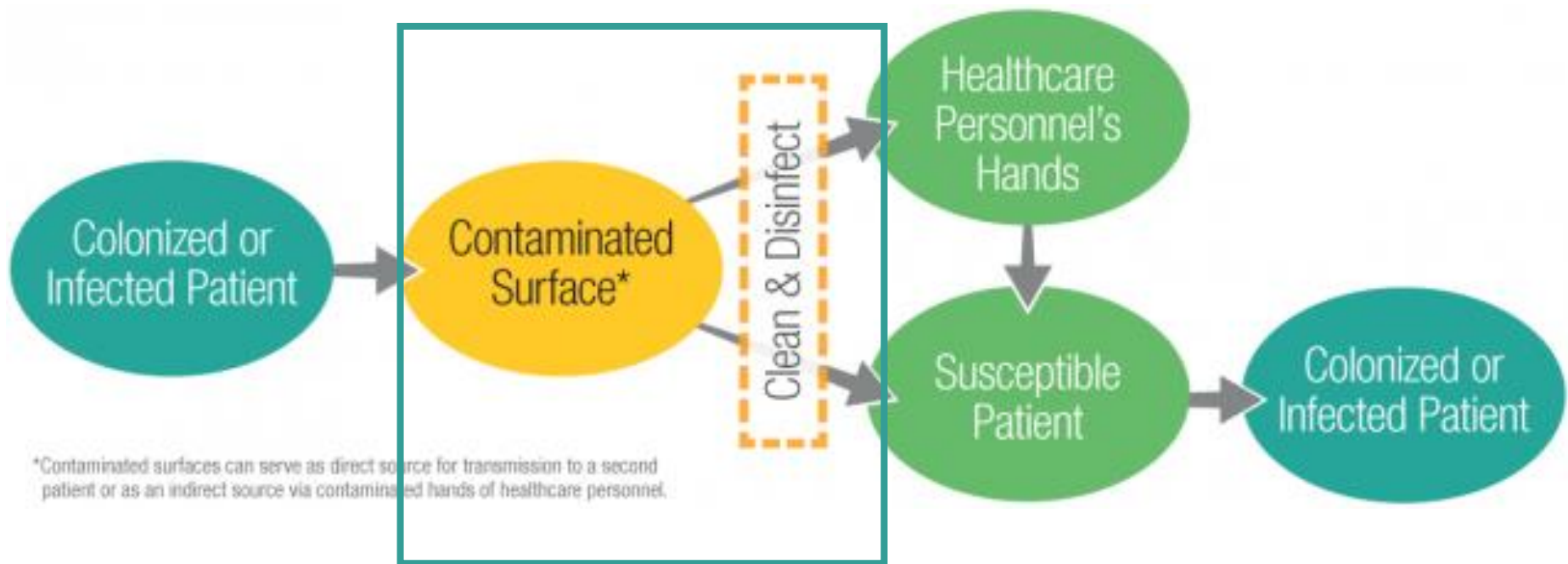
## These five unsung heroes volunteered to clean COVID-19 patients' hospital rooms

BY CAITLIN O'KANE

UPDATED ON: MAY 1, 2020 / 5:47 PM / CBS NEWS







# Breaking the chain of infection

# Basic principles of EVS

- Create a process for cleaning equipment and room surfaces
  - Establish a pattern
  - Identify high-touch surfaces
- Build in time to clean and disinfect equipment shared between residents

**Don't let germs tag on for the ride!**



## Sparkling Surfaces: High-Touch, High-Risk



**How often do you touch these surfaces during your work day?**

## How Long **Germs** Last in the Environment

Pathogen (Germ)	Survival Time on Dry Surfaces
Acinetobacter spp. (ACBA)	3 days – 5 months
Bloodborne pathogens (hepatitis)	> One week
Clostridium difficile (spores)	5 months
Escherichia coli	1.5 hours – 16 months
Enterococcus (VRE and VSE)	5 days – 4 months
Klebsiella spp	2 hours - > 30 months
Mycobacterium tuberculosis (TB)	1 day – 4 months
Pseudomonas aeruginosa	6 hours – 16 months
Serratia marcescens	3 days – 2 months
Staph: MSSA, MRSA	7 days – 7 months
Streptococcus pyogenes (GAS)	3 days – 6.5 months

Kramer et al. (2006) BMC Infect Dis 2006;6:130e137.

## How can you **HELP** stop the germs from moving?



Switch cleaning cloths/mop heads out every time you use one



Don't wear gloves in the hallways or out of the rooms unless you are working at your cart

# “Who Cleans What??” checklist

## ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES - WHO CLEANS AND DISINFECTS THESE DAILY?

AREA	EVS	FREQ	NURSING	FREQ	OTHER (Specify)	FREQ
<b>Patient Room</b>						
Bed rail/controls						
Bedside cabinet and other furniture						
Blood Pressure Cuffs/Sphygmomanometer						
Call box/button and cords						
Computer monitor, mouse, keyboard, and cart (if present)						
Corridor railing						
Bladder scanner						
Dispensers for towels, soap, sanitizer, etc.						
Door knob/handle and push plates (inside and out) to room						
Feeding pumps and stands						
Glove boxes and holders						
Infusion Pumps and control						
ISO Holder						
IV Poles						
Light Switch						
Multi module monitor Controls						
Multi module monitor touch screens						
Multi module monitor wires and cables						
Nursing Cart						
Overbed tray table/drawer						





# Standard Precautions

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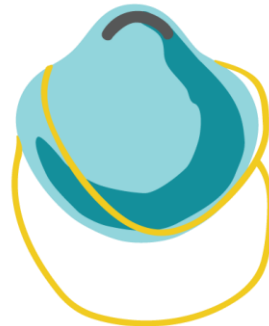
Gloves should be used when cleaning and changed before leaving to clean the next room EVERY TIME



Gowns are used to protect clothing from splashing of body fluids



Masks can be used if there is potential for splashing or spraying body fluids into eyes, nose, or mouth



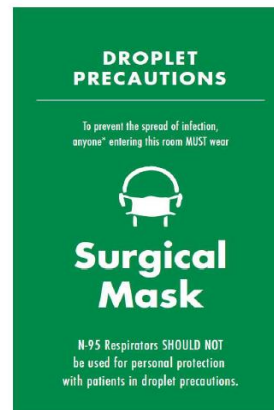
You might have to put on a special kind of mask, called a respirator, to enter a room to clean

# Isolation Precautions

Isolation precautions protect you from germs in the rooms you are cleaning



You may need to wear a gown over your clothes in rooms with **Contact Precautions**



You may need to wear a mask in rooms with **Droplet Precautions**

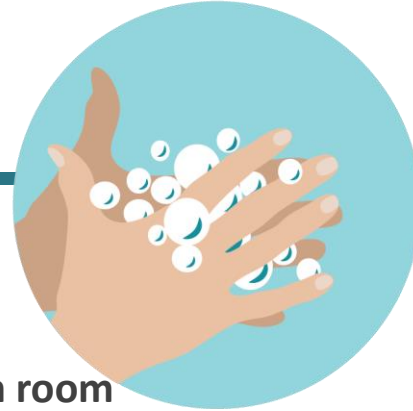


You may need to wear a special respirator for **Airborne Precautions**

# How can you protect yourself while cleaning?

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**Hand Hygiene: Keep your hands clean**



- Clean your hands **before and after cleaning each room** and other patient care areas
- Clean your hands **after removing gloves**
- Clean your hands **after touching items in the patient area**
- Clean your hands **after you use the restroom**
- Clean your hands **before and after you eat**
- Clean your hands **before you go home**

# Training for EVS Personnel

- **Train** upon hire and at least annually, and when introducing new equipment or protocols
  - Consider **language** preferences of staff
  - If **contracted** services provide training, ensure it meets facility requirements
  - **Keep records** of training completion
  - Ensure **cleaning agency policy** is available
- **EVS and IP should engage routinely** on schedule, priorities, challenges, and lessons learned
  - Ensure nurses, techs, etc are trained on cleaning and disinfection
- **Re-train** to address gaps identified during audits
  - **Label** clean/dirty status and contact time
  - Anything that is **broken** or cracked is not cleanable anymore



# ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANING IN HEALTHCARE (WITH TRANSLATIONS)

Home / Practice Tools / Educational and Training Videos / Environmental Cleaning in Healthcare (with translations)

## SET UP THE CLEANING CART (PART 1)



[English](#) [Spanish](#) [Arabic](#) [French](#)

## CLEAN PATIENT / RESIDENT ROOM (DISCHARGE) (PART 4)



[English](#) [Spanish](#) [Arabic](#) [French](#)

## PERFORM HAND HYGIENE (PART 2)



[English](#) [Spanish](#) [Arabic](#) [French](#)

## CLEAN PATIENT/ RESIDENT ROOM (ISOLATION) (PART 5)



[English](#) [Spanish](#) [Arabic](#) [French](#)

## CLEAN PATIENT/ RESIDENT ROOM (OCCUPIED) (PAR



[English](#) [Spanish](#) [Arabic](#) [French](#)



# EVS Cart – Tips and Tricks

- We often ask about:
  - Dusters and toilet brushes (are they room to room or dedicated to resident)
  - Products without labels or expiration dates
  - Contact time for disinfectants
  - Ensure no food/drink on cart
  - Locked up if unattended
  - Are disinfectants pre-mixed or made on site?



# Avoid Spraying/Fogging Chemicals Into the Air

- EPA does not recommend use of fumigation or wide-area spraying to control COVID-19.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that you clean contaminated surfaces with liquid products, such as those provided on EPA [List N](#), to prevent the spread of disease.
- Fumigation and wide-area spraying are not appropriate tools for cleaning contaminated surfaces.
- There are electrostatic sprayers and products registered to use with them - BUT surfaces still need to be cleaned first and then the disinfectant applied for the required wet time.
- **N95 filtering respirators are likely required** when applying any disinfectant via electrostatic spray gun. Depending on the vapor pressure, chemical-specific cartridges may be required.



# Choose Safer Disinfectants

## Asthma-Safer Ingredients

- **Hydrogen Peroxide**
- Lactic Acid
- Citric Acid
- **Alcohol-ethyl alcohol, isopropyl alcohol**

EPA's Design for the Environment antimicrobial pesticide program recommends safer disinfectants such as those based on hydrogen peroxide or alcohol.

Check the label to ensure it is effective against the organisms of concern

# Want help with your EVS program?

- Contact us to set up a consultation!

## Infection Control Assessment & Response (ICAR) Program

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- Email Melissa Feskin [Melissa.Feskin@doh.wa.gov](mailto:Melissa.Feskin@doh.wa.gov)

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- Washington Health Care Association
- Adult Family Home Council of WA State
- Washington State Hospital Association



# Additional Resources

- CDC LTC Mini Webinar: Sparkling Surfaces: Stop COVID-19 Spread:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t7OH8ORr5lg>
- LTCF GENERAL ROOM ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANING CHECKLIST:  
[https://oregonpatientsafety.org/docs/resources/LTCF\\_Environmental\\_Cleaning\\_Checklist\\_Tool.pdf](https://oregonpatientsafety.org/docs/resources/LTCF_Environmental_Cleaning_Checklist_Tool.pdf)
- Infection Prevention Education  
[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLwK925MY2VnNbPlcuM8UYrWYzV7-fk\\_jW](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLwK925MY2VnNbPlcuM8UYrWYzV7-fk_jW)
- Options for evaluating environmental cleaning: <https://www.cdc.gov/hai/toolkits/evaluating-environmental-cleaning.html>
- CDC Environmental Infection Control:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/environmental/index.html>
- APIC EVS Basics: <https://apic.org/Resources/Topic-specific-infection-prevention/Environmental-services/>
- SPICE Environmental Rounds Tool: <https://spice.unc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/LTC-Environmental-Rounds-Tool.doc>
- CDC Checklist for Monitoring Terminal Cleaning:  
<https://www.kingcounty.gov/~media/depts/health/communicable-diseases/documents/CT9/environmental-cleaning-checklist.ashx?la=en>
- Oregon Patient Safety Commission:  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCr7pqPe\\_gn7RFb8mX\\_8gW\\_w/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCr7pqPe_gn7RFb8mX_8gW_w/videos)
- Environmental Cleaning in Healthcare, with translations:  
<https://icap.nebraskamed.com/practice-tools/educational-and-training-videos/draft-environmental-cleaning-in-healthcare/>

# Choosing a disinfectant

## CDC

### Tools by Pathogen

#### Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacterales (CRE)

- [Facility Guidance for Control of CRE](#) [PDF - 381 KB]

#### *C. difficile*

- See [C. difficile infection](#)

#### Ebola

- See [U.S. Healthcare Workers and Settings](#)

#### Influenza

- See [Prevention Strategies for Seasonal Influenza in Healthcare Settings.](#)

#### MERS – Middle East Respiratory Syndrome

- See [Information for Healthcare Professionals.](#)

#### MDRO – Multidrug Resistant Organisms

- [Acute Care Facility MDRO Control Activity Assessment Tool](#) [PDF - 321 KB]

#### MRSA – Methicillin Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* Infections

- [Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus Infections](#) [PDF - 214 KB]
- [Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus Infection](#) [PPT - 741 KB]

[https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/tools/index.html#anchor\\_1551975154](https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/tools/index.html#anchor_1551975154)

## EPA

Environmental Topics

Laws & Regulations

About EPA

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### Pesticide Registration

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Pesticide Registration Home

About Pesticide Registration

Electronic Submission of Applications

Pesticide Registration Manual

Fees and Waivers

Registration Information by Type of Pesticide

— Antimicrobial Registration

— Biopesticide Registration

— Conventional Registration

— Inert Ingredient Regulation

Requirements and Guidance

— Data

— Forms

— Labeling

### Selected EPA-Registered Disinfectants

This page contains information on certain EPA-registered disinfectants, including links to lists of products registered against common pathogens like hepatitis or norovirus and a list of products registered against *Candida auris*.

#### On this page:

- [Antimicrobial products registered with EPA for claims against common pathogens](#)
- [Antimicrobial products registered with EPA for claims against \*Candida auris\*](#)
- [Information on registration numbers](#)
- [Additional information](#)

### Antimicrobial Products Registered with EPA for Claims Against Common Pathogens

The following lists of antimicrobial products registered by EPA are effective against common pathogens, as indicated in the list titles. EPA-registered antimicrobial products may not make efficacy claims against these pathogens unless the Agency has reviewed data to support the claim and approved the claim on the label.

Use of the listed EPA-registered products consistent with the product labeling complies with the [Occupational Safety and Health Administration's requirements for Occupational Exposure to blood borne Pathogens \(29 CFR 1910\)](#) as well as proper management of any waste when disposed, which is regulated under the [Resource Conservation and Recovery Act \(RCRA\)](#).

If you would like to review the product label information for any of these products, please visit our

<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/selected-epa-registered-disinfectants>





## Evaluating Cleanliness

### Direct observation

- Manager, peer review, nurse, obs

### UV Markers

- Mark room at time of patient discharge but before cleaning
- Return with UV Light

ATP system - check system swabs after room is cleaned

