

Title: Cleaning and Disinfection of Telehealth Equipment and Peripheral Devices		<b>STANDARD NUMBER:</b>
<b>DATE:</b> October 9, 2018		<b>APPLIES TO:</b> All AHS Staff
<b>APPROVAL:</b> Virtual Health Management Team		
<b>INITIAL EFFECTIVE DATE:</b> April 11, 2014	<b>REVIEW / REVISION DATE:</b> October 9, 2018	<b>SCHEDULED REVIEW DATE:</b>

## OBJECTIVE

To provide information on how to clean and disinfect telehealth equipment and peripheral devices at Alberta Health Services (AHS) sites and facilities. This includes telehealth touch panels, remote controls and peripheral devices such as handheld camera, digital stethoscope and document camera.

## GUIDELINE

Hand hygiene is the most important factor in preventing transmission of microorganisms. Perform **Hand Hygiene** before using any telehealth equipment.

1. Perform hand hygiene with Alcohol-Based Hand Rub (ABHR) unless hands are visibly soiled. If hands are visibly soiled, wash hands with soap and water.

<b>NOTE:</b> The <u>user is responsible</u> for cleaning equipment after each use.
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Telehealth touch panels, remote controls and peripherals (hand held camera, digital stethoscope, etc.) must be cleaned after each use by following the steps below:

## PROCESS

1. Perform hand hygiene either by using ABHR **or** by washing hands with soap and water.
2. Clean equipment with AHS provided ready to use (RTU) disinfectant wipes such as Virox RTU®, Accel®, Oxivir® or Percept Wipes®. The type of disinfectant available varies by zone/site. Check the expiry date on product.
3. Follow the manufacturer label and Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) sheet regarding use of personal protective equipment (PPE).
4. Cleaning and disinfection is performed in **three** steps:
  - 1) Take a disinfectant wipe and squeeze to remove excess fluid. Use a wipe to clean and remove visible soil. Discard wipe.
  - 2) Take a second wipe and squeeze to remove excess fluid. Use the wipe to disinfect following instructions for time surface has to remain wet. Discard wipe.
  - 3) Allow surfaces to **air dry** as per disinfectant instructions.

**Note:** Do not spray or pour disinfectant directly onto the equipment

5. Perform hand hygiene either by using ABHR **or** by washing hands with soap and water.

### **Mobile telehealth equipment**

Any mobile Telehealth equipment that is used in the patient environment, must be thoroughly cleaned and then disinfected with a RTU disinfectant as per the steps outlined above. Patient environment means the area immediately surrounding the patient (within 2 metres).

### **REFERENCES**

Alberta Health Services (AHS). 2011. Hand Hygiene Policy available at

<https://extranet.ahsnet.ca/teams/policydocuments/1/clp-hand-hygiene-ps-02-policy.pdf>.

AHS Infection Prevention and Control Best Practice Guideline Bedside Computers and Electronic Devices available at <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/infofor/hp/if-hp-ipc-cleaning-disinfection-info.pdf>