

Standard Operating Procedure

Environmental Cleaning

Document #: MDR.1.4.1

Initial effective date: October 2017

Last updated: April 2023

Next review: April 2026

OBJECTIVES

- Identify general requirements for environmental cleaning in all Medical Device Reprocessing Areas (MDRA).
- Identify environmental cleaning responsibilities for MDRA and environmental services personnel.
- Identify cleaning practices and frequency as per governing standards.
- Provide a clean and safe working environment for all personnel and visitors.

APPLICABILITY

Compliance with this document is required by all Alberta Health Services employees, members of the medical and midwifery staff, students, volunteers, and other persons acting on behalf of Alberta Health Services (including contracted service providers as necessary) working within Medical Device Reprocessing Area.

ELEMENTS

1. Follow the Environmental Services (EVS) practice support protocol for Medical Device Reprocessing Areas. *Medical Device Reprocessing Areas (Central Sterilization Services & Surgical Processing, Protocol, # ES-CLN-33)*.
2. Follow Table 20.1 Minimal Cleaning Frequencies for Reprocessing Area as outlined in *Canadian Medical Device Reprocessing in all Health Care Settings- Z314-23*.
3. Personnel performing cleaning and disinfection procedures shall be provided training and have access to Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and checklists for the task they are to perform.
4. Areas shall be kept clean and safe and shall be free of visible soil, including dust.
5. The sequence of cleaning shall follow a one-way workflow in accordance with routine practices.
6. Within areas, the cleaning sequence for surfaces and equipment shall move from higher to lower and from least contaminated to most contaminated.
7. Cleaning equipment used shall be dedicated to the MDRA. There shall be dedicated equipment for cleaning in the decontamination area, this equipment shall **not** be used in any other area.
8. Cleaning shall be done in such a way as to minimize the production of air turbulence and excess moisture which will help to control the spread of microorganisms.
9. All equipment cleaning and disinfection supplies shall be used according to manufacturer's validated instructions for use.

10. A regular cleaning schedule shall be posted and cleaning activities for all MDRA(s) shall be documented as part of a quality assurance program. Duties assigned to MDR personnel may vary from site to site or be deferred to either Environmental Services (EVS) personnel or Facilities Management depending on the task.
11. Floors shall be cleaned daily or more frequently, if necessary, e.g., spills, using a damp mop, microfiber mop or mechanical cleaning.
12. Walls and ceilings should be cleaned every six months, or more frequently if visibly soiled.
13. Light fixtures, vents, sprinkler heads and other fixtures should be cleaned every six months.
14. Cleaning and disinfection of all areas shall also occur after any of the following events:
 - a) flood;
 - b) renovation or repairs that create dust;
 - c) removal of temporary hoarding; and
 - d) chemical spills.
15. MDR staff shall clean the following:
 - 15.1 Flat surfaces
 - a) All flat work surfaces, such as counters and flat equipment surfaces, shall be free of clutter, cleaned and disinfected with low or intermediate level disinfectant at least daily or when visibly soiled.
 - b) All work areas shall be cleaned immediately if a spill occurs.
 - 15.2 Sinks
 - a) used for decontamination of instruments or devices shall be cleaned and disinfected whenever the solution is changed;
 - b) shall be emptied, cleaned, and disinfected at the end of each shift;
 - c) used for cleaning endoscopes, respiratory equipment, and intraocular ophthalmic devices shall be cleaned and disinfected between each use.
16. Sinks designated for hand-hygiene shall be cleaned and disinfected with low or intermediate level disinfectant at least daily by EVS or when visible soiled by MDR staff. Sinks that are designated for hand hygiene should not be used for any other purpose.

DEFINITIONS

None

REFERENCES

- Alberta Health Services governance documents
 - *Environmental Services Cleaning Frequency Standard* (ES-CLN-02- 2021)
 - *Medical Device Reprocessing Areas* (ES-CLN-33-2022).
- Non-Alberta Health Services documents
 - *Canadian Medical Device Reprocessing in all Health Care Settings*. (Canadian Standards Association) (CAN/CSA Z314-23)

Table 20.1- Minimal Cleaning Frequencies for Reprocessing Area as outlined in
Canadian Medical Device Reprocessing in all Health Care Settings-Z314-23.

Area		Counters/workstations	Shelves, cabinets and containers	Floors	Walls	Light fixtures, sprinkler heads, other fixtures and vents	Waste and recycling containers
MDRAs	Sterilization area	Daily	Every 3 months	Daily Anti-fatigue mats lifted and cleaned daily	Every 6 months	Every 6 months	Empty and clean daily
	Preparation and Packaging	Daily	Every 3 months	Daily Anti-fatigue mats lifted and cleaned daily	Every 6 months	Every 6 months	Empty and clean daily
	Decontamination	Daily and when visibly soiled	At least weekly and when visible soiled	Daily Anti-fatigue mats lifted and cleaned daily	Every 6 months	Every 6 months	Empty and clean daily
	Case cart area	Daily	Every 3 months	Daily	Every 6 months	Every 6 months	Empty and clean daily
	Reprocessing area in an endoscopy / UTP suite	Daily and when visibly soiled	At least weekly and when visible soiled	Daily and when Visibly soiled	Every 6 months	Every 6 months	Empty and clean daily
	Endoscope / UTP Storage	Daily	At least weekly and more often if air circulation is a concern	Daily	Every 6 months	Every 6 months	Empty and clean daily
Storage Tier 1	With adequate air exchange and traffic control	Daily	Every 3 months	Daily	Every 6 months	Every 6 months	Empty and clean daily
	Without adequate air exchange and traffic control	Daily	Monthly	Daily	Every 6 months or more often when needed	Every 6 months	Empty and clean daily
	In central core	Daily	Minimum Monthly Note: this includes OR enclosed storage	Daily	Every 6 months	Every 6 months	Empty and clean daily
Storage Tier 2	Includes all sterile storage areas outside of MDRA(s) and OR	Daily	Open – Weekly (uncontrolled high-traffic areas); lonthly (low-traffic areas) Closed – monthly	Daily	Every 6 months	Every 6 months	Empty and clean daily
Storage Tier 3	Sterile, clean storage in bulk, pallets boxes	Daily	Every 3 months	Open floors – once per week Under carts, pallets, cartons – once per year	Every 6 months	Every 6 months	Empty and clean daily

Notes:

- 1) Any anti-fatigue mats shall be lifted and cleaned daily no matter where they are located.
- 2) Recycle and waste bins shall be emptied when $\frac{3}{4}$ full but at a minimum daily.

VERSION HISTORY

Date	Action taken
October 2017	Initial approval
April 2023	Last updated
April 2026	Next revision date



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