

Standard Operating Procedure

Exposed Pipes and Fixtures

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Last updated:

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OBJECTIVES

- To minimize potential cross-contamination associated to exposed pipes.
- To provide guidance on routine cleaning of exposed pipes/fixtures that are easily accessible.

PRINCIPALS

- Exposed pipes and fixtures can become contaminated with dirt and debris. The implementation and documentation of a cleaning process will mitigate the risk of cross-contamination.

APPLICABILITY

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

ELEMENTS

1. Exposed pipes and fixtures (easily accessible)

- 1.1 Each site shall develop a frequency for the routine cleaning of the pipes and fixtures to include the documentation of the activity in a log. This documentation can be incorporated into existing environmental cleaning logs. Frequency of cleaning shall be determined in accordance with CSA standards.
- 1.2 The MDR at each site will collaborate with Linen & Environmental Services (LES) departments and determine the task assignment for cleaning exposed pipes and fixtures.

2. Exposed pipes and fixtures (not easily accessible)

- 2.1 Develop cleaning process that may require additional elements e.g., use of ladders, performing Hazard Identification, Assessment and Control (HIAC) prior to starting task, involving Facilities, Maintenance and Engineering (FME) to assist with the work.
- 2.2 Exposed pipes that are made with a non-cleanable material shall be covered with a cleanable covering.
- 2.3 Document when work is completed.

- 2.4 When planning any renovation that will include use wall or ceiling work or a new build all pipes, conduits and cabling must be enclosed.

DEFINITIONS

None

REFERENCES

- Non-Alberta Health Services governance documents
 - *Canadian Medical Device Reprocessing*. (Canadian Standards Association) (CAN/CSA-Z314-18)
 - *Canadian Health Care Facilities*. (Canadian Standards Association) (CSA Z8000-18)
 - *Reprocessing of Reusable Medical Device 2018* (Accreditation Canada, Health Standards organization)

VERSION HISTORY

Date	Action taken
May 2022	Initial approval
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