

Use of Mobile Electronic Devices when Patients are on Contact and Droplet Precautions including COVID-19

1. Cleaning and disinfection of mobile electronic devices

Devices taken into patient rooms with [contact and droplet precautions](#) in place, including COVID-19 patients, are cleaned and disinfected following manufacturer's instructions before contact with a patient or patient's environment; after contact with a patient or patient's environment; and when the device is visibly soiled. Refer to [link](#) for examples of mobile electronic devices.

1.1 Before contact with a patient or patient's environment, e.g., room entry:

- Clean and disinfect the device with a ready-to-use disinfectant wipe following instructions in Section 2. The following disinfectants are commonly used for cleaning and disinfecting mobile electronic devices: CaviWipes®, Virox RTU®, Accel®, Oxivir® and Percept Wipe®;
- Perform hand hygiene, and [don](#) personal protective equipment (PPE) required for [contact and droplet](#) precautions, i.e., gown, mask, face shield/eye protection, and gloves.

1.2 After contact with a patient or patient's environment, e.g., exit from the room:

- Place the device outside the immediate patient environment, e.g. 2 metres away from patient, on a counter, near door, and within reach from where staff will [doff](#);
- Open door (move curtain if needed);
- Begin doffing PPE outside the immediate patient's environment, i.e., at least 2 metre away from the patient;
 - Remove gloves, perform hand hygiene, remove gown, and perform hand hygiene again.
- Put on new, clean gloves accessed from glove box;
- Clean and disinfect the device following instructions in Section 2;
- Exit room and place the cleaned and disinfected device on a clean surface or pass to a colleague.
- Complete doffing of PPE.
 - Remove gloves, perform hand hygiene, remove face shield/eye protection, remove mask, and perform hand hygiene again.

2. Device cleaning and disinfection instructions

Perform hand hygiene, don gloves and disinfect device with a [ready-to-use disinfectant wipe](#):

- Wipe all the surfaces of the device including its protective case or cover if applicable, from the least-soiled to the most-soiled areas;
- Keep the surface wet for the minimum contact time recommended by the manufacturer;
- Put the device on a clean surface and allow it to dry completely;
- Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene.

3. Additional resources

- AHS IPC Best Practice Guideline: [Bedside Computers and Electronic Devices](#)
- AHS Information Technology's Connect Care Cleaning and Disinfecting of Mobile Electronic Devices [Information Sheet](#)
- Apple specific cleaning and disinfection [instructions](#)

Notes: Do not use alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) to disinfect devices as it is not intended to be used as an equipment disinfectant and it may cause damage to the device.

Mobile electronic devices owned by AHS must be used in accordance with their assigned purpose(s). Consult AHS Information Technology for more information.