The aim of this document is to:

- Support patient safety by outlining key points for the use of ready-to-use disinfectant wipes for cleaning and disinfecting non-critical patient equipment as indicated by the equipment manufacturer.
- Inform users of changes that may impact the supply of disinfectant products.
- Provide recommendations about managing changes in disinfectant supplies.

Best practice recommendations

1. Use **ready-to-use disinfectant wipes** for point-of-care cleaning and disinfecting of **non-critical** patient equipment as indicated by the equipment manufacturer.

2. **Non-critical** patient equipment must be clean of visible soil before it can be disinfected.

3. Use ready-to-use disinfectant wipes for intended purposes only (e.g., never use on skin).

4. Rotate stock of ready-to-use disinfectant wipes. Ensure the container for the ready-to-use disinfectant wipes is properly closed, stored and used before the expiry date.

5. Check open containers to make sure the wipes have not dried out and discard into regular garbage if they become dry. Do not add liquid to re-wet dried out wipes.

6. Clean the exterior of visibly soiled containers of ready-to-use disinfectant wipes.

7. Read and follow the instructions on the label including the contact time; the time a disinfectant must remain wet on a surface to be effective.

Recommendations for change in supply of ready-to-use disinfectant wipes

1. Supply chain issues are occurring with ready-to-use disinfectant wipes and substitutions may occur. All AHS provided disinfectant wipes are equally effective against COVID-19 and other microorganisms.

2. During the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Contracting, Procurement and Supply Management (CPSM) may substitute similar ready-to-use disinfectant wipes in place of the ones currently being used in your area. Refer to images below for examples of different ready-to-use and point of use preparation disinfectant wipes.

   2.1. All above key points for ready-to-use disinfectant wipes apply to substitutes.

3. Substitutes may come already diluted, i.e., ready-to-use, or as a concentrate with instructions for mixing.

4. In the event that CPSM substitutes to a disinfectant that requires **point-of-use preparation** the following apply:
4.1. Areas need to determine who will manage the new process, e.g., assign responsibility for the point-of-use preparation and storage of the disinfectant.

4.2. Choose a secure, clean location outside of a patient care space for the point-of-use preparation and storage. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for storage.

4.3. For the point-of-use preparation, follow the manufacturer’s instructions for diluting, mixing, and pouring the disinfectant into the wipe container.

4.4. Label the point-of-use preparation. Labelling includes a Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) label and a product preparation or expiry date. The product label may be provided by the vendor or already on the vendor supplied container. Follow manufacturer’s instruction for prepared shelf life (expiry date).

4.5. Check the wipe or cloth used is compatible with the disinfectant. Cotton-based cloths and some microfibre cloths may bind to the active ingredient of the cleaning or disinfection product and the cloth retains the chemical causing inadequate exposure of the surface to the product, e.g., quaternary ammonium compound (QUAT) and “quat binding.”

Definitions

Non-critical means equipment or device that either touches only intact skin (but not mucous membranes) or does not directly touch the patient. Reprocessing of non-critical equipment or devices involves cleaning and may also require low-level disinfection (e.g., blood pressure cuffs, stethoscopes).

Point-of-use preparation means a container of disposable wipes for use with either 1) a ready-to-use liquid disinfectant at the appropriate concentration is provided by the manufacturer and added to the container of wipes or 2) a liquid disinfectant requiring dilution according to manufacturer’s instructions is prepared by the unit and added to the container of wipes.

Ready-to-use disinfectant wipes means wipes that are: AHS provided, pre-mixed at the appropriate concentration, saturated with disinfectant (e.g., enhanced hydrogen peroxide or bleach or hypochlorite), and used to clean and/or disinfect the patient environment or equipment.

References

Examples of ready-to-use disinfectant wipes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Name</th>
<th>Product Image</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accel INTERvention™ RTU Wipes</td>
<td><img src="image1" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accel PREvention™ RTU WIPES</td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="Image" /></td>
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<tr>
<td>Caviwipes™ RTU</td>
<td><img src="image3" alt="Image" /></td>
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<tr>
<td>Diversey Easy Wipes Disposable Wiping System™</td>
<td><img src="image4" alt="Image" /></td>
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**Note:** this is a point-of-use preparation