Guidelines for cleaning and disinfection for SARS-CoV-2

- If possible, use dedicated medical equipment for patient care.
  - All shared medical equipment used for patient care should be cleaned and disinfected according to manufacturer’s instructions and facility policies.
- Continue to manage laundry, food service utensils, and medical waste in accordance with routine procedures.
- Refer to list N on the EPA website for EPA-registered disinfectants that have qualified under EPA’s emerging viral pathogens program for use against SARS-CoV-2: [https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2](https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2)
- Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for product use (e.g., concentration, application method, contact time, and PPE).
- Clean the surface first, and then apply the disinfectant as instructed. Ensure adequate contact time for effective disinfection.
- Adhere to any safety precautions or other label recommendations (e.g., adequate ventilation in confined areas, proper disposal of unused product and appropriate PPE).
- After cleaning, removing and disposing of gloves, staff should perform hand hygiene.
- Ensure that environmental cleaning and disinfection procedures are followed consistently and correctly.

Best practices for long-term care facilities:

- Shared equipment: clean and disinfect after every resident use.
- Dedicated equipment: clean and disinfect prior to storage.
- Avoid applying products in a way that splashes or generates aerosols.
- Review cleaning and disinfection products and how to use them properly with floor staff and housekeeping.
  - Ensure they understand the necessary contact time.
  - Differences between porous and non-porous surfaces.
- Room cleaning:
  - Do daily cleaning.
  - Also clean high touch surfaces every shift (door handles, bedside tables, bed rails, TV remote, call button, light switches).
- Facilities should consider assigning daily cleaning and disinfection of high-touch surfaces to nursing personnel who will already be in the room providing care to the patient.
- Supervise cleaning activities and inspect cleaning periodically to ensure correct procedures are followed.

Resources:

- EPA registered disinfectants effective against SARS-CoV-2: [https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2](https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2).
- CDC environmental infection control in healthcare settings: Guidelines for Environmental Infection Control in Health-Care Facilities and Guideline for Isolation Precautions: Preventing Transmission of Infectious Agents in Healthcare Settings [section IV.F. Care of the environment].