

“The Devil is in the Details”

Outbreak Response: Environmental Cleaning

Louisiana Department of Health | Office of Public Health
Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section
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“ The speaker does not have a financial or non-financial relationship with a commercial interest that would create a conflict of interest with this presentation. ”

Disclosure Statement

Objective

Communicate response plans to house-wide staff responsible for containing the spread of Influenza.

Outline

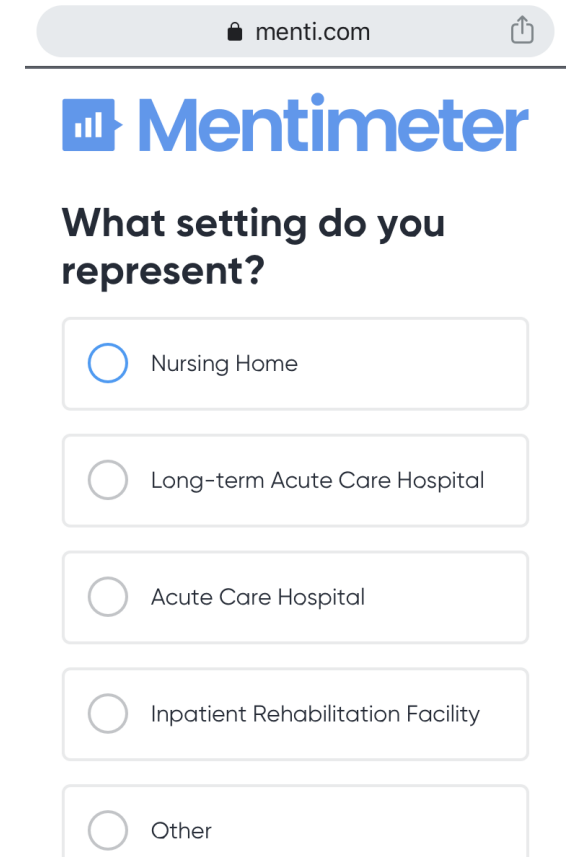
Daily and terminal environmental cleaning.



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Cleaning Principles: High-touch and Other Surfaces

► High-touch Surfaces

- Medical equipment knobs or handles
- Blood pressure cuffs
- Bedrails
- Handheld television controls
- Nurse call lights
- Doorknobs
- Light switches
- Telephones
- Computer keyboards

► Other Surfaces

- Floors
- Walls
- Window curtains
- Lights
- Ventilation grilles

These surfaces must be cleaned immediately when visibly soiled. It is important to note that cleaning procedures and cleaning agents used for environmental surfaces usually differ from those used for cleaning patient care equipment and instruments.

Cleaning Principles: Patient Zone

▶ Patient Zone

- Patient
- Immediate Surroundings
- Consists of many high-touch surfaces
- If not properly cleaned, the contaminated surfaces can be a reservoir of microorganisms

▶ Healthcare Zone

- Outside of the patient zone
- Can consist of foreign organisms that may be potentially harmful if introduced into the patient zone

Special Circumstances

- ▶ Blood and body fluids
- ▶ *Clostridioides difficile* (CDIFF)
- ▶ Norovirus and other diarrheal diseases
- ▶ Personnel performing cleaning tasks must follow isolation precautions meticulously and wear a gown, gloves, mask, and protective eyewear.
- ▶ Isolation rooms
 - No special disinfectants → disinfectants should be selected based on the infectious agent
 - Terminal cleaning and decontamination upon patient movement

Evaluating Disinfectants and Employee Knowledgebase

- ▶ EPA-registered agents
- ▶ Infection preventionist should have a thorough knowledge of the cleaning agents and disinfectants used by the EVS department
- ▶ Safety data sheet
- ▶ If your facility contracts EVS personnel, the contracting agency should forward competency evaluations of all EVS persons when they are hired and at least annually
- ▶ Consider the science when incorporating a new product for use (although \$\$\$ will weigh heavily as well)

Designing Education for EVS Personnel

- ▶ EVS managers and supervisors, in conjunction with IPs and other HCP, determine when PPE is necessary, write usage guidelines, and select and purchase appropriate products.
- ▶ Evaluate EVS personnel about PPE, make sure PPE is available, and monitor usage.

The training program should include:

- When PPE is worn
- What PPE to wear
- How to don, remove, adjust, and wear each type of PPE
- Limitations of each type of PPE
- Care, maintenance, useful life, and storage or disposal of PPE
- Written certification indicating that the employee has received and understood the training

EVS Personnel Should Don/Doff PPE Too!

Consider them “infection control technicians.”

CONTACT PRECAUTIONS

To prevent the spread of infection,
anyone* entering this room **MUST** wear



Gloves



Gown

Applies whether or not contact with the patient
or the patient's environment is anticipated.

***VISITORS: Mask and gown
not needed, WASH HANDS
upon entering and leaving.**

DROPLET PRECAUTIONS

To prevent the spread of infection,
anyone* entering this room **MUST** wear



**Surgical
Mask**

N-95 Respirators **SHOULD NOT**
be used for personal protection
with patients in droplet precautions.

AIRBORNE PRECAUTIONS

To prevent the spread of infection,
anyone* entering this room **MUST** wear



N-95 Respirator

Also ensure that the **DOOR** to the patient's room
remains **CLOSED** at all times.

***VISITORS:
Wear blue surgical mask**

SPECIAL CONTACT PRECAUTIONS

In addition to standard infection control precautions,
the following are required:



Gown



Gloves



Disposable
Equipment or
Dedicated
Equipment



Wash Hands
with Soap and Water only

- ✓ Gloves and gowns are **REQUIRED** upon room entry
- ✓ Bleach wipes are required for cleaning equipment
and the environment
- ✓ Use disposable equipment or dedicated equipment
and leave it in the room
- ✓ Wash hands with soap and water only

Visitors **MUST** check with nurse
before entering room.

Summary

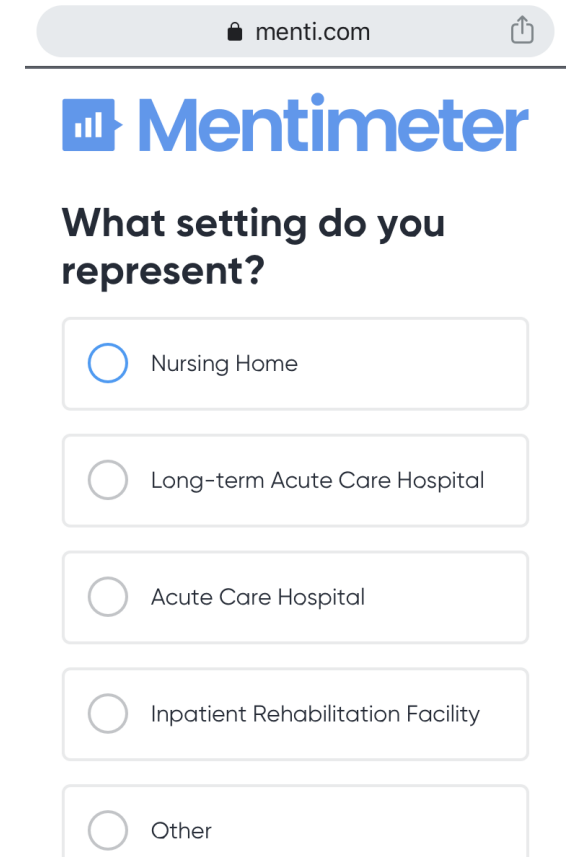
- ▶ EVS workers should be trained on transmission-based precautions and PPE.
- ▶ IP and EVS supervisors should collaborate to train EVS personnel annually.
- ▶ Auditing of practices is warranted.
- ▶ Evaluate usefulness of products based on science.
- ▶ Adhere to kill times for effective use of products.



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Questions?

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