

Norovirus Environmental Cleaning Recommendations for Long-Term Care Facilities

- Increase cleaning and disinfecting of high touch surfaces such as toilets, faucets, hand/bed railings, telephones, door handles, computer equipment, countertops, kitchen preparation surfaces. A 1:10 solution of hypochlorite (bleach) to water is preferred when the setting and/or item to be cleaned allows it.
 - Disinfect all high-touch surfaces (e.g., doorknobs, light switches, tables, counter tops, computer keyboard frequently (every shift) with a solution of 1:10 hypochlorite (bleach) to water
 - Clean/disinfect surfaces starting from areas with a lower likelihood of contamination (e.g., tray tables, counter tops) to areas with a higher likelihood of contamination (e.g., toilets, bathroom fixtures).
 - Clean rooms of symptomatic patients LAST, after all other rooms have been cleaned.
 - Change mop heads whenever a new bucket of cleaning solution is prepared, or after cleaning large spills of fecal material or vomit.
 - Clean bathrooms every shift, with special attention to toilets and fixtures
 - Clean common areas and staff rooms, including refrigerators and freezers
 - Clean rooms every 24 hours and on patient discharge (walls, windows, beds, chairs, and ledge)
- Clean/disinfect shared equipment between patients with an [EPA-registered product](#). Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for application and contact times.
 - Consider discarding disposable patient-care items and laundering unused linens from patient rooms after patients on isolation for norovirus are discharged.
 - Silverware and dishware may undergo normal processing and cleaning using standard procedures.
 - Remove all supplies from a room before an infected patient is housed in the room; any supplies left in these rooms after the infected patient's release should be discarded. All unused linens in the room after the patient's discharge should be laundered according to usual practices.
- Change privacy curtains if soiled or contaminated and after discharge of patient. Launder according to usual procedures. Use standard precautions and appropriate PPE (e.g., gloves and gowns) to handle soiled linens.