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**IPC.22 The hospital ensures safe reprocessing of single use items.**

- IPC.22.1 The hospital implements a policy and procedure regarding reprocessing of single use items. The policy defines the following:
- IPC.22.1.1 The items that can be reused.
  - IPC.22.1.2 Patients and conditions for reuse of single-use items.
  - IPC.22.1.3 Measures taken to ensure safety and integrity including testing and maintenance by biomedical engineering.
  - IPC.22.1.4 Manufacturer approval as a prerequisite, whenever applicable.
- IPC.22.2 The policy is approved by the infection prevention and control committee and hospital director.
- IPC.22.3 Justification of reprocessing is provided by the head(s) of the concerned department(s).
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**Standard Intent:**

In order to reduce the risks associated with reprocessing of single use items for instance, increase the risk of infection and increase the risk of inadequate performance of the device post it is reprocessing. When single-use devices are reused, the hospital must have clearly written policy that guides the process of reusing single use items to meet the standard requirements, to clarify the responsibility for justification of reprocessing, to be consistent with the national laws and regulations, approved by hospital director and Infection Control Committee and concerned staff must be fully aware about it.

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**IPC.23 The hospital has policies and procedures for housekeeping.**

- IPC.23.1 The housekeeping has policies and procedures that describe the areas to be cleaned, the schedule for cleaning, and the procedures to be used for cleaning different environmental surfaces.
- IPC.23.2 Policies and procedures, schedules, and agents utilized are reviewed by infection prevention and control staff.
- IPC.23.3 All units have a cleaning/ disinfection schedule which lists all environmental surfaces to be cleaned.
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**Standard Intent:**

Environmental cleaning is a fundamental principle of infection prevention and control in healthcare settings. To ensure appropriate decontamination of hospital surfaces that could play an important role in the transmission of dangerous pathogens, including *Clostridium difficile*, and antibiotic-resistant organisms such as methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and vancomycin-resistant enterococci (VRE). The hospital must implement clearly written housekeeping policies and procedures that reviewed by

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infection control staff, must have detailed cleaning schedules listed hospital environmental surfaces, prepared and implemented by housekeeping staff and monitored by Infection Control staff.

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#### **IPC.24 The hospital environment is kept clean.**

- IPC.24.1 Hospital environment, lockers, and cabinets are clean.
  - IPC.24.2 Food is stored under sanitary conditions and is consumed in designated places.
  - IPC.24.3 Food refrigerators are clean and are used only for food storage.
  - IPC.24.4 There are separate clean and dirty utility areas in each patient care area.
  - IPC.24.5 There are policies and procedures on pest control that address the regular schedule for pest control, chemical list, and time and place of exposure.
  - IPC.24.6 Routine environmental microbiological cultures are not performed unless recommended by the infection prevention and control team.
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##### **Standard Intent:**

To provide safe and supportive environment for healthcare workers, patient and visitors, regular hospital wide cleaning and decontamination must be maintained by the hospital. Pest Control process should be conducted as per written hospital policy with a fixed schedule for different hospital areas, the hospital must have separate dirty and clean utility rooms in each patient care area that used for its designated purposes.

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#### **IPC.25 There is a system to handle blood/body fluids spills.**

- IPC.25.1 The hospital implements a policy on blood/body fluids spill kit use.
  - IPC.25.2 Blood spill kits are available in all patient care units, including all necessary components. Hospital staff working in patient care areas are capable of cleaning of blood/body fluids spills.
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##### **Standard Intent:**

To minimize the risk of spread of infection and the risk of potential blood borne pathogens exposure, all blood and body substances should be treated as potentially infectious. The hospital must have a defined system on how to handle blood and body fluid spills. Managing exposure to blood or other body substances required availability of blood spill kit in every patient care unit that contains all necessary equipment and properly used by the hospital staff, written policies and procedures on spills management.

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