

# Low Level Cleaning and Disinfection

## Site Applicability

All PHC sites

## Practice Level

*Basic:*

- All PHC staff

## Need to Know

Multi use equipment and medical devices in the healthcare setting are linked to an increased risk of hospital acquired infections. Low level cleaning and disinfection is a two-step process, followed by a mandatory dwell or air dry time. Together, these steps reduce the risk of infectious disease transmission. Low level cleaning and disinfection applies to any equipment/surface/device that touches intact skin and does not come into contact with mucous membranes.

It is expected that all non-critical, multi-use equipment, such as blood pressure cuffs, stethoscopes, etc., are to be cleaned and disinfected:

- Immediately before the item comes in contact with the patient and/or their environment.
- After it has come in contact with the patient and/or their environment.
- Before the equipment or device is stored in a clean space.

Cleaning and disinfection is imperative in all healthcare settings and is everyone's responsibility.

## Equipment and Supplies



### Accel INTERVention Wipes

ITEM # 00066966 - DIN 02448637

Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide based

1 minute dwell time

Does not require PPE



**Accel PREvention Wipes**

**ITEM # 00129498** - DIN 02448459

Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide based

3 minute dwell time

Does not require PPE



**CaviWipes**

**ITEM # 00069408** - DIN 02242209

Quaternary Ammonium based

3 minute dwell time

Requires PPE for prolonged or repeated use (gloves and eye protection)



**KIMTECH wipes**

**ITEM # 00087777**

70% Isopropyl Alcohol

No dwell time

Does not require PPE

Non-woven/non-scratch fabric okay for use on electronic screens (WOWs/MDCs and Omnicell), laboratory lens, instruments and tools.

**"I AM CLEAN" Green Sticker**

For use on items that have been cleaned and disinfected.

**Procedure****Steps**

1. Clean  
Obtain a wipe from the packaging, ensuring the wipe itself is damp. Using a rubbing motion, scrub the surface of equipment or device with the wipe. The friction generated from the scrubbing will remove any foreign matter and debris. It is important to clean from the cleanest area to the dirtiest. More than one wipe may be used for this step. Ensure the surface remains damp throughout this step.
2. Disinfect  
Immediately following step 1, remove a new wipe from the packaging, again ensuring that it is damp. Using a back and forth or up and down motion, wipe the surface of the equipment. Next allow the item to dwell or air dry for 1-3 minutes, as listed by the manufacturer which can be found on the packaging. In order to be effective, air dry or dwell time must be maintained.
3. Place a green "I am clean tag" on the equipment if appropriate.

**Site Specific Practices**

Refer to the IPAC [Master Equipment Cleaning List](#) to determine the appropriate product, frequency of cleaning and disinfection and the persons most responsible for the cleaning and disinfection of device or equipment.

**Related Documents**

- [B-00-07-13076](#) - Master Equipment Cleaning List
- [Practice Pointer](#) - MDCs/WOWs and Infection Control
- [How to Clean & Disinfect a Workstation on Wheels \(WOW\)/Medication Delivery Cart \(MDC\)](#)

## References

- Diversey. (2021). Safety Data Sheet: Accel INTERVention Wipes. Available from <https://sds.diversey.com/DirectDocumentDownloader/Document?prd=MS0301550~~PDF~~MT R~~ANEP~~EN~~>
- Diversey. (2020). Safety Data Sheet: Accel PREVention Wipes. Available from <https://sds.diversey.com/DirectDocumentDownloader/Document?prd=MS0301551~~PDF~~MT R~~ANEP~~EN~~>
- Kimberly-Clark. (2012). Safety Data Sheet: KIMTECH PURE. Available from [http://media.hiscoinc.com/Volume2/d110001/medias/docus/128/Kimberly-Clark%20Corporation-28394\\_33390-SDS\\_VD.pdf](http://media.hiscoinc.com/Volume2/d110001/medias/docus/128/Kimberly-Clark%20Corporation-28394_33390-SDS_VD.pdf)
- Metrex. (2022). CaviWipes: Resources. Available from <https://www.metrex.com/en-ca/caviwipes#resources>

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