



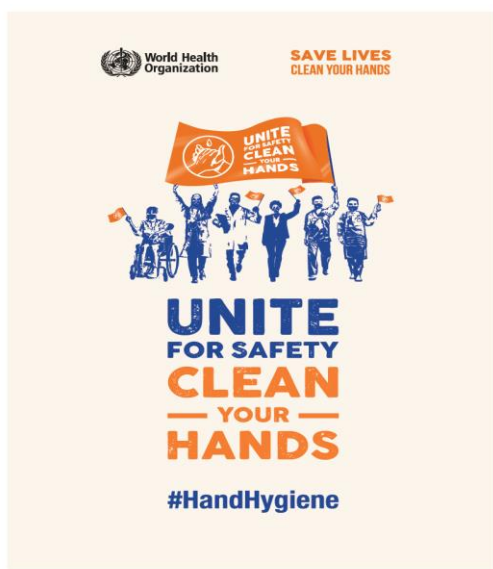
IPC Care Home Champions



Infection Prevention and Control Care Home Champions Newsletter – Summer 2022

Welcome to the summer edition of your newsletter. This edition we will focus on cleaning and decontamination of the environment, and equipment.

Plus, a look back at the World Hand Hygiene Day on May 5th which was a great collaborative event and a fun opportunity to catch up with many champions across 22 care homes.



We celebrated “WHO Hand Hygiene Day” by visiting 22 Care Homes” offering staff the chance to complete our Glow Box Challenge.

We had an amazing amount of interest and lots of great interaction with an incredible 251 care home staff participating, it was fun and informative with plenty of goodies.

Whilst we witnessed excellent gel application, followed by fabulous hand washing techniques, there were a few observations that could be improved on.

“Bare Below The Elbow”. Wearing of watches, bracelets and rings with stones were observed.

Maybe this could be an area for a rapid improvement using a simple observational hand hygiene audit.

If any Care Champions want support with this, please contact jean.dipple@nhs.net for further information





DECONTAMINATION

Cleaning in Health and social Care



Health and social care act 2008 (revised 2015)

Cleanliness Policy – Your Policy should ensure **National Standards of Cleanliness 2021** are met including clear roles and responsibilities with appropriate audits and action plans for cleaning across the organisation.

Further reading... Look at your role and responsibilities

Decontamination is a process which removes or destroys contamination and thereby prevents micro-organisms, or other contaminants, reaching a susceptible site in sufficient numbers to initiate infection or some other harmful response.

The three key stages of decontamination are CLEANING, DISINFECTING and STERILISING

Cleaning

Is the first stage in the decontamination process and an essential prerequisite to disinfection and sterilisation.

It is a process which physically removes grease, dirt, dust, blood and faeces but does not necessarily destroy micro-organisms.

This process uses detergent and water, the detergent dilution and water temperature should follow the manufacturer's instructions.



Disinfecting

Disinfection is a process that reduces the number of microorganisms to a level at which they do not present a risk to patients or clients. It is only effective if surfaces and equipment have been cleaned thoroughly with detergent and water beforehand.



The specific disinfectant to be used should be specified in the local cleaning/disinfection policy or procedure. The hypochlorite or chlorine dioxide solution will kill both bacteria and viruses provided it is used as per manufactures' instructions.

Sterilisation

Is a process used to render an object free from viable micro-organisms including viruses and bacterial spores (but not necessarily prions).



Easier Cleaning

2-1 Combined Cleaning Wipes

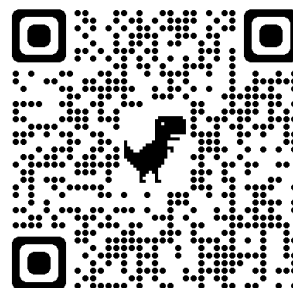
Universal Wipes are a detergent/disinfectant wipes. That means **they clean and disinfect in a single action**. Always has a premeasured dose of biocides at the correct concentration, thereby avoiding the risk of low doses that than can lead to resistance. Testing has been done on the wipe itself – you know what you are using is working as per the test result.

Clean one area from clean to dirty, in an S shape, then throw wipe away – this avoids transferring germs and dirt from one area to another. Quick to use, saves time and money.



2-1 Combined Cleaning Solutions

Chlorine releasing disinfectant tablets (NaDCC) with compatible cleaning agent allowing for a 1,000 ppm available chlorine solution to be made up when diluted as recommended. Tablets and fluid allow for cleaning and disinfection of environmental surfaces in healthcare facilities in an easy single step process. Combined tablets and solutions have dual-action capability by lifting grease and organic matter from surfaces whilst effectively disinfecting at the same time.



Use your camera to hover over the Q Code to access further information on dual cleaning products. There are also some good training videos included on the websites, so pay them a visit.

What products do you use? Do they have training material that you can use to improve staff awareness on the importance of a safe clean environment?

Remember... Cleaning of the healthcare environment is an integral part of any IPC programme, and everyone has a part to play in this.



What Do You Mean... is it CLEAN?

Does your cleaning cupboard look like this?
Can you spot the issues?



Cleaning equipment needs to be easily accessible

It is recommended that all care homes adopt the National Colour coding system for cleaning materials including cloths, mops, buckets and aprons.

RED Bathrooms, washrooms, basins, showers, toilets etc	GREEN Catering departments, food areas and food service
BLUE General areas including wards, department offices and basins in public areas	YELLOW Isolation Areas

Safe use and secure storage along with good housekeeping and the associated behaviours will culminate in safe practices and competent operator.

**Control of Substances
Hazardous to Health 2002 (COSHH) HSE**

Any equipment or furniture that is damaged, ripped, or broken cannot be cleaned effectively. Exposed foam will not only be contaminated but also a health & safety fire risk. Check, are all your furnishing wipeable or cleanable?



Wooden surfaces must be varnished or painted. Formica shelving must have intact edging strips. Be aware that many cleaning substances may result in sticky damaged surfaces.

REMEMBER to report and repair or replace any damaged items that cannot be cleaned effectively!

Always pay particular attention to the underside of all equipment or furniture.

Everyone wipes the visible surfaces, it's those hard to reach or unseen areas that get missed.



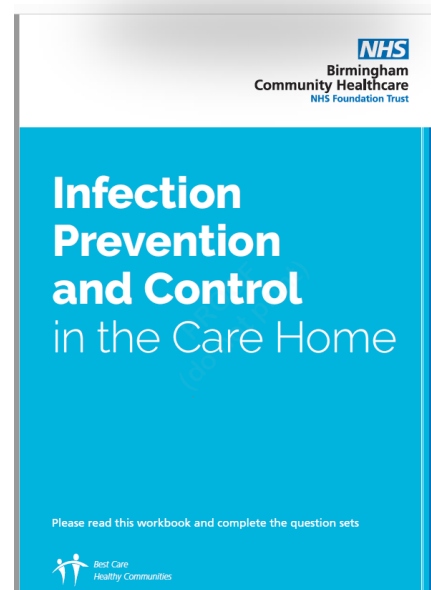


Over to you...

Thank you to all the staff who attended our
Workbook Launch & Lunch.

We are using the feedback to improve the workbook,
making it a valuable resource and support tool.

Watch this space



Thank you for taking time out to
read this quarters Care Home
Champion newsletter.
In the next instalment we will look
at the forthcoming

IPC Champion Training Day
7th October 2022

Details to follow

IPC Workbook
Preparing for another winter
&

Nursing Times Award 😊

If you would like a topic added
please don't hesitate to contact
the IPC Team

THIS COULD BE YOU!

If you would like to be a Link worker in the spotlight,
please email: ipcdata@nhs.net