

Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital Policy and Procedure		
Cleaning of Non-Critical, Reusable Equipment		
Effective: 10/30/2019	Revised: August 2023	Due to Review: August 2025

POLICY

To assure non-critical equipment used for care provision is not a vector for infection, and to reduce or eliminate Hospital Acquired Infections, Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital (VPCH) will implement and maintain processes to ensure non-critical, reusable equipment is routinely cleaned and disinfected before and after use in accordance with the current Infection Prevention and Control Plan. VPCH does not supply reusable equipment that requires high level disinfection or sterilization.

DEFINITIONS:

Cleaning: Removal of visible soil, blood, and other debris from the surface of an item, usually through water and detergent or use of an enzyme cleaner.

Disinfecting: Destruction of most pathogenic microorganisms through chemical agents or thermal process.

Reprocessing: Method to ensure proper disinfection; can include cleaning, inspecting, and storing.

Non-Critical Items: Items that come into contact with intact skin but not mucous membranes.

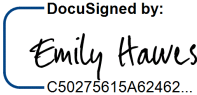
PROCEDUREOn-Unit Care Equipment

- All equipment is cleaned immediately when visibly soiled.
- Equipment used for care provision is cleaned, disinfected and/or reprocessed immediately after use and/or before reuse with another hospitalized individual or before being placed in storage.
- Equipment used for care provision is cleaned and disinfected according to Manufacturer's Instructions for Use (MIFU) when available. If a MIFU is unavailable, equipment will be cleaned with a disinfectant with the best anticipated compatibility with the equipment materials. Disinfectants must be registered with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and approved by VPCH.
- Health care workers must exercise routine practices (i.e., hand hygiene) and wear the required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) appropriate for the task.
- Special, additional cleaning may be required in an outbreak situation or in the presence of multi-drug resistant organisms. In such cases, procedures will be determined in consultation with the Infection Control Nurse, or their designee.

- Disposable of equipment and supplies used for care provision shall be immediately discarded after use in an appropriate receptacle.
- Personal care items/effects (such as razors and nail clippers) are single use items and are not to be shared between hospitalized individuals.

Clean Storage Closet (J12) Equipment

- Prior to supplying a hospitalized individual with a medical device from the J2 Clean Storage Closet, verify that there is a doctor's order, if indicated.
- When removing non-critical equipment for patient use, document the following:
 - Document item being removed.
 - Document the date removed.
 - Document the individual who will be utilizing the equipment.
 - If there is not a CLEAN tag on a piece of equipment, manage the equipment as outlined in this procedure by taking appropriate measure to clean, disinfect and/or reprocess the item and complete and submit an appropriate event report.
- When returning an item, document the following:
 - Date returned.
 - Verify that the item was cleaned and disinfected.
 - Verify that the item has a tag with the date applied and an accompanying signature.
 - Print Name.
 - Sign Name.
- If an item is damaged, complete and submit the appropriate event report and notify the on-duty nursing supervisor. Damaged items shall not be returned to the clean equipment storage, instead damaged items shall be placed in the loading dock area for appropriate action.
- When a new item is incorporated into the clean storage closet document the following:
 - Item name.
 - Date added to inventory.
 - Verify that the item was cleaned and disinfected.
 - Verify that the item has a CLEAN tag with the date applied and an accompanying signature.
 - Print Name.
 - Sign Name.

Approved by	Signature	Date
Emily Hawes Commissioner Vermont Department of Mental Health	 <p>DocuSigned by: Emily Hawes C50275615A62462...</p>	8/1/2023