



WORKPLACE INSTRUCTION

Environmental and Equipment Cleaning

Scope (Staff):	Nursing and Medical Staff
Scope (Area):	NICU KEMH, NICU PCH, NETS WA

Child Safe Organisation Statement of Commitment

CAHS commits to being a child safe organisation by applying the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations. This is a commitment to a strong culture supported by robust policies and procedures to reduce the likelihood of harm to children and young people.

This document should be read in conjunction with this [disclaimer](#)

Aim

To outline the environmental and equipment cleaning activities required to meet compliance with health care cleaning standards.

Risk

Increased morbidity and mortality for patients, visitors and staff from Healthcare associated infections.

Key points

- Only products approved by the Infection Prevention and Control Team (IP&C), Patient Support Services (PSS) and in consultation with the Neonatology Equipment CNC can be used for cleaning (environmental and equipment) - this includes microfibre products.
- All environmental cleaning will be undertaken in line with the Work Health and Safety Act 2011, and relevant AS/NZS Standards. Follow:
 - NICU 3B/NETS WA - [CAHS IPC Environmental Cleaning Policy](#)
 - NICU KEMH – [WNHS IPM Environmental Cleaning Policy](#)
- It is the responsibility of all members of the Neonatology team to create and maintain a safe and clean environment and to ensure the correct PPE is available at the bedside.

Bedside Environmental Cleaning Procedure

To prevent and control infection transmission within the healthcare setting, all staff have a responsibility to always adhere to [Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions](#). **Complete bedside environmental cleaning during the day x 1 and overnight x 1.**

Document completion of cleaning on the Observation Charts MR489/MR491.00.

Clean in order of below table and replace wipe with **each** group of equipment:

Equipment	Method*
1. Pacifier and wipes' warming tub	Replace with new
2. Incubator, warmer, cot	Clinell wipes <i>(a combined 2 in 1 detergent and disinfectant chemical)</i>
3. Gel wedges/positioning devices	Clinell wipes
4. CPAP stand & set up	Clinell wipes
5. Ventilator/Inovent & stand	Clinell wipes
6. Monitor leads and cables	Clinell wipes
7. Monitor & computer screens	70% alcohol isopropyl wipe
8. Computer keyboard & pendulums	Clinell wipes
9. Pedestal, workstation and all surfaces	Clinell wipes
10. Folder holder & clipboards	Clinell wipes
11. IV pumps, syringe drivers & IV poles	Clinell wipes
12. Other equipment (Brainz monitor etc.)	Clinell wipes

**Disinfection processes reduce microorganisms but may not inactivate some viruses and bacteria. Infants under Transmission Based Precautions may require additional cleaning. Refer to the CAHS [Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions](#) policy and [exposure and outbreak](#) below.*

Incubators are to be changed **weekly** unless the infant is clinically unstable. Document the date of the incubator change on the Observation Charts MR489.00/MR491.00. Cleaning of incubators is done by the ward PCA's.

Incubator covers are to be changed **weekly** by the nursing staff and placed in designated dirty linen bags **not** in the general hospital linen dirty skips.

Communicable Disease Exposure and Outbreaks

Additional infection control strategies are needed in situations where standard precautions alone may be insufficient to prevent transmission of an infection. The

frequency and efficiency of environmental cleaning may be increased to ensure any contaminants are removed.

A targeted cleaning regime may be introduced and continued for the duration of the outbreak dependent on the mode of transmission of the infectious agent.

Refer to the following for further information:

- NICU 3B/NETS WA - CAHS IPC [Exposure And Outbreak Management](#).
- NICU KEMH – WNHS IPM [Outbreak Management](#)

Sustainability

Opened consumables must be discarded. Do not overstock bedside pedestals to reduce wastage. Sealed consumables, in impervious packaging can be wiped with a Clinell and returned to the storage area.

Blood, Body Fluid and Chemical Spills

Refer to the CAHS IPC [Exposure to Blood and Body Fluids](#) & [Chemical Management \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

NICU KEMH – also refer to site-based WNHS IPM (may also need to refer to [NMHS Management of Hazardous Substances and Dangerous Goods](#))

Medical Devices (single use & reusable)

Patient safety can be compromised due to cross infection or contamination, device malfunction, and / or material degradation with inappropriate cleaning/reprocessing of medical devices. See [Medical Devices \(health.wa.gov.au\)](#) for specific cleaning requirements of single use and reusable medical devices.

Auditing cleaning processes

A systematic scheduled program for auditing is carried out by site-based Patient Support Services to monitor compliance with cleaning processes and identify areas requiring improvement.

Related CAHS internal policies, procedures and guidelines

[CAHS Infection Prevention and Control Policies](#)



[WNHS Infection Prevention and Management Manual](#)

[CAHS WHSW Team – Work Health Safety & Wellbeing Home \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

[CAHS Medical Devices: Single Use, Single patient Use and Reusable](#)

[NMHS Management of Hazardous Substances and Dangerous Goods](#)

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request.

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Reviewer / Team:	Neonatology		
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Approved by:	Neonatal Coordinating Group	Date:	25 th February 2025
Endorsed by:	Neonatal Coordinating Group		
Standards Applicable:	NSQHS Standards:  Child Safe Standards: 1,10		
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