

UPDATED GUIDANCE FOR CLEANING & DISINFECTING

Overview

- NM cleaning protocols meet the CDC guidelines for cleaning and disinfecting practices for COVID-19 and other communicable diseases.
- NM is increasing the frequency of cleanings to further ensure a consistent, safe environment for patients, employees, and visitors.
- Enhanced visibility of cleaning frequency is being implemented to increase knowledge and assurance of our safe environment at NM.

What you need to know

- Handwashing is the most important factor to reduce the spread of illness.
- Wear gloves as appropriate for the chemicals being used when cleaning and disinfecting.
- Frequently touched surfaces and areas will be cleaned more often in partnership between NM Environmental Services and individual departments.
- Be mindful of physical distancing when performing cleaning and other job duties.

Refresh on cleaning protocols

- CLEAN VISIBLY DIRTY SURFACES prior to disinfection.
- USE THE APPROPRIATE CLEANING OR DISINFECTANT PRODUCT. Use an EPA-approved disinfectant against COVID-19, and read the label to make sure it meets your needs.
- ALWAYS FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS ON THE LABEL. The label will include safety information and application instructions.

Please note: Management of laundry, food service utensils, biomedical equipment, and medical waste should continue to be performed in accordance with routine procedures.

Public Spaces

The frequency of cleaning has been increased in all public spaces with an emphasis on frequent contact surfaces including, but not limited to, reception/patient check-in desks, elevators and elevator buttons, door handles, public restrooms, escalator and stair handrails and dining surfaces.

- Owner: NM Environmental Services / 3rd Party Contractor

Ambulatory Clinics and Outpatient Diagnostic Areas

Daily cleaning and disinfecting will continue to be performed pursuant to regular cleaning guidelines. This scope includes, but is not limited to, sanitizing all hard surfaces, sinks and faucets, cleaning walls and glass, vacuuming, emptying and cleaning trash receptacles and restrooms.

- Owner: NM Environmental Services / 3rd Party Contractor

Customary cleaning and disinfection of exam rooms, procedure rooms and diagnostic areas should continue to be performed between patients as required by policy. No special cleaning or disinfection requirements are needed for COVID-19 patients. Requests for terminal cleaning should be made to NM Environmental Services or Property Operations.

In addition, high-touched items should be routinely cleaned and disinfected. These items may include chair arms, door handles, check in/check out desk surfaces, keypads, phones, touch screens, light switches, hand rails, and other shared surfaces such as shared carts or file cabinet handles. More frequent cleaning and disinfection may be required based on level of use.

- Owner: NM Clinical Department

Administrative Spaces

Daily cleaning and disinfecting will continue to be performed pursuant to regular cleaning guidelines. This scope includes, but is not limited to, sanitizing all hard surfaces, sinks and faucets, cleaning walls and glass, vacuuming, emptying and cleaning trash receptacles and restrooms.

- Owner: NM Environmental Services / 3rd Party Contractor

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- Owner: NM Administrative Department

If you have specific questions about the required cleaning response for procedures performed in your area, please refer to the "Clinical Care & Support of the ROCOVID or COVID Patient" document located on

NMI or via this link: <https://nmi.nmh.org/wcs/blob/1390904506157/20200321-specific-guidance-for-tasks-in-care-of-the-r-o-or-confi.pdf>

Ordering Cleaning Supplies

All disinfecting wipe supply orders are being filled through materials management and supply chain directly. Please place your cleaning supply orders using the following methods:

Buildings in the Central and North Regions can request by emailing nmgsupplies@nm.org.

Buildings in the west and NW can email rmgsupplies@nm.org.