

Recommended frequency for cleaning and disinfecting areas where a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patient has been present according to WHO¹

Area	Frequency	Procedure
 Holding area / triage area	At least 2 x daily	Focus on frequently touched surfaces, e.g. armrests, shelves and make sure to clean / disinfect floors last
 Patient room / cohort occupied	At least 2 x daily, preferably 3 x daily, paying particular attention to frequently touched surfaces	Disinfect the frequently touched and shared surfaces first, such as door handles, window handles, table and chairs; then next disinfect the surfaces in the immediate vicinity, such as bed slats and the respective patient's bedside table (change cleaning cloth each time) and do the floors last
 Patient room / unoccupied	Final disinfection during transfer / transport and discharge	Sequence: less frequently touched surfaces; frequently touched surfaces; floors; waste and laundry disposal; bed disinfection
 Outpatient treatment rooms	After each patient, paying particular attention to frequently touched surfaces; 1 x daily final disinfection	Sequence of final disinfection: less frequently touched surfaces; frequently touched surfaces; floors; waste and laundry disposal; thoroughly disinfect the examination bed
 Corridors	At least 2 x daily Infrequently used corridors 1 x daily	Frequently touched surfaces including handrails, control buttons (elevator etc.), do floors last
 Patient wet room	Toilet in single room at least 2 x daily Shared toilets at least 3 x daily	Sequence: frequently touched surfaces including door handles, light switches, shelves, taps, then sinks, then toilets and floors; avoid sharing toilets between staff and patients

In addition to the above-mentioned recommendations on the frequency of cleaning and disinfection, surfaces should always be cleaned and disinfected if they are visibly soiled or contaminated by a body fluid (e.g. blood).

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Source:

1. World Health Organization (WHO). Cleaning and disinfection of environmental surfaces in the context of COVID-19. Interim guidance 15 May 2020



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