

Healthcare sector: Maintenance of (healthcare) material and rooms

Some guidelines regarding the maintenance of (healthcare) material and rooms can be found below:

- All healthcare equipment (blood pressure monitor, stethoscope, thermometer, wheelchair, bedpan/urinal, walking frame, etc.) must be available in the resident's room and only assigned to one resident. If impossible, always clean well with detergent and disinfect using a chlorine solution of 1,000 ppm (preparation).
- Take eating utensils to the kitchen immediately after serving for cleaning in a dishwasher at no less than 60 °C. Attention must also be paid to cleaning the shelves, preferably in the dishwasher.
- If possible, keep as much material as possible linked to the resident. Change work clothes daily. Work clothes smeared with blood or other body fluids must be replaced immediately.
- If possible, ventilate the room several times a day by opening the windows (do not ventilate via the room door).
- Immediately remove all dirty linen using a linen bag (in a stand-up container with a closed lid that is operated by foot). Do not push the air out of the linen bags. Linen should preferably be washed at 60 °C. The rooms should be cleaned daily with detergent and disinfected with a product that is active against the coronavirus, e.g. with a 1,000 ppm chlorine solution (preparation).
- The cleaning cart and accessories must then be cleaned with detergent and disinfected with a 1,000 ppm chlorine solution (preparation).
- Use at least one clean cloth and clean (soapy) water for each resident's room.
- Wash the cleaning cloths and mops daily, and at the highest possible temperature, and then dry them in the dryer.
- Environmental hygiene in the entire residential healthcare centre is being improved.
- At least twice a day, but more frequently is recommended, cleaning and disinfection of:
 - "high touch" surfaces throughout the facility: door handles, keyboards, elevator control panel, handles, handrails, etc.;
 - "high touch" points in the living room: door handle, telephone/smartphone, light switch, call bell, surfaces such as table, bedside table, etc.;
 - sanitary facilities: certainly the toilet flush, hand rest, tap, etc.

The following guidelines are provided specifically for home healthcare:

- Eating utensils are best washed by machine. If there is no dishwasher, the utensils can be washed by hand with hot water and washing-up liquid.
- If possible, ventilate the person's room several times a day by opening the windows.
- Linen must always be considered contaminated. Immediately remove all dirty linen found in the (closed) linen basket. Linen should preferably be washed at 60 °C (or higher). Wear gloves and a mask when handling laundry, and then use hand hygiene measures.
- If possible, the infected person should use a separate bathroom and toilet. If this is not possible, it is recommended that the bathroom is used by the infected person last and then cleaned and disinfected, as well as ventilated.
- The rooms of the sick person must be cleaned and disinfected daily with a product that is active against COVID-19, e.g. a chlorine solution (bleach) diluted with water.
- When cleaning and sanitising the rooms, attention must be paid to:

- More frequent cleaning/disinfection of:
 - “High touch” points: door handle, telephone/mobile light switch, surfaces such as table, remote control, etc.
 - Sanitary facilities (certainly toilet flush, hand rest, tap, etc.).
- Use at least one clean cloth and clean (soapy) water for each room.
- Wash the “contaminated” cleaning cloths and mops on a daily basis and at the highest possible temperature

Source: www.zorg-en-health.be

This document was prepared on 24/04/2020 on the basis of the measures in force on that date.