

Coronavirus COVID-19

Version April 2020

TECHNICAL

Terminal disinfection measures for a patient confirmed or suspected of coronavirus disease (COVID-19)

Type of precautions: air-contact

In General

Corona viruses are viruses known to cause generally mild respiratory infections in humans and animals. Some strains may be more virulent, such as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV), as well as the newly identified and named SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19).

Usually, coronaviruses infect the nose, throat and lungs. The infection often causes mild but can sometimes be severe in some people, especially those with weakened immune systems or chronic illnesses. In rare cases, the disease can lead to death.

Corona viruses are enveloped viruses, which means that they are among the easiest types of viruses to kill with an appropriate disinfectant when used according to label directions.

Survival time in the environment

- 24 hours on cardboard;
- Four hours on copper;
- Two to three days on plastic and stainless steel;
- Nearly three hours in ambient air.

Transmission

- Current scientific and epidemiological evidence indicates that the mode of transmission of CoV-2-SARS appears to be predominantly via droplets during prolonged close contact or by direct contact with droplets in respiratory secretions when the sick person coughs or sneezes.
- The proportion of transmission through indirect contact via surfaces is not well known.
- Transmission via opportunistic airborne transmission (fine droplets of respiratory secretions) of infected aerosolized respiratory fluids during medical procedures that

generate aerosols) is not yet well-defined and according to current scientific data, the experts cannot decide on the exclusion of transmission via this route.

- Faecal-oral transmission is also possible.

Special precautions

- It is imperative to respect the time limits specified in Table 1 below, before carrying out the cleaning, according to the number of air changes per hour in the room (in the absence of information, use the maximum time).

Number of air changes per hour	Time required (min.) for removal at 99.9% efficiency
1	414
2	207
3	138
4	104
5	83
6	69
7	59
8	52
9	46
10	41
11	38
12	35
13	32
14	30
15	28
16	26
17	24
18	23
19	22
20	21

Table 1: Air changes per hour and time required to remove airborne contaminants at 99.9% efficiency.¹

¹ COMITÉ CONSULTATIF DES MALADIES INFECTIEUSES PROVINCIALES (PIDAC), Pratiques de routine et précautions supplémentaires dans tous les établissements de soins de santé, 3e édition, 2012, ANNEXE D : TEMPS REQUIS POUR L'ÉLIMINATION DE M. TUBERCULOSIS DANS LA CHAMBRE D'ISOLEMENT DES INFECTIONS AÉROPORTÉES

Required material

Make sure you have all the necessary equipment for disinfection and waste disposal on hand before entering the room..

- Buffers for wet cleaning and disinfection of floors
- Disinfectant for hospitals
- Cleaning cloths
- Toilet brush Waste management
- General garbage bags
- Container for sharps or breakable biomedical waste (if required)

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) (follow the institution's recommendations):

- Disposable long-wrist protective gloves
- Long-sleeved protective gown
- Mask N-95
- Eye protection: goggles or face shield.

Procedure

Room

CLOSE THE ROOM DOOR AND AWAIT THE PRESCRIBED DELAY FOR THE TYPE OF VENTILATION (see Table 1).

1. Proceed with hygiene of the hands.
2. Put on the recommended personal protective equipment in the sequence indicated.
3. Use the stepladder to remove divider curtains, drapes and window valances, if applicable. Place in a laundry bag.
4. Remove sheets and bedding from bedroom and bathroom. Place in a laundry bag for the laundry room.
5. Remove garbage bags from garbage cans.
6. Replace sharps or breakable biomedical waste container if necessary.
7. Wipe up any visibly soiled surfaces before cleaning begins.
8. Use cleaning cloths soaked in hospital disinfectant to clean and disinfect accessible surfaces in the environment :
 - The bed table;
 - The bed and its frame (base, foot, head and side rails);
 - The bedside table; Chairs and armchairs;
 - Window sills;
 - Door handles;
 - Any surface that can be touched by hand such as light switches, televisions, telephones, telephones, thermostats, wall panels, lamp holders, etc.
9. Wash and disinfect waste bins and container of sharps or breakable biomedical waste, as appropriate.

10. Place used cleaning cloths in a laundry bag.

Washroom

1. Use cleaning cloths soaked in hospital disinfectant to clean and disinfect accessible surfaces:
 - Soap and paper dispensers;
 - Mirror;
 - Door handles;
 - Wash basin, pipes and faucets;
 - Wall surfaces adjacent to the sink.
2. Wash and disinfect the toilet seat and lid.
3. Wash and disinfect the cistern, and the flush handle.
4. Wash and disinfect the inside walls of the toilet bowl with the toilet brush.
5. Wash and disinfect the outside of the toilet bowl, including the foot, and the walls adjacent to the toilet bowl.
6. Place used cleaning cloths in a laundry bag.
7. Clean the toilet floor using a swab: spread a layer of solution all over the floor.

Room floor area and end of procedure

1. Clean the floor using a pad: spread a layer of solution over all floor surfaces in the room (walkways, underneath furniture).
2. Remove and dispose of the pad used in the laundry bag and send it to the laundry department.
3. Clean and disinfect the hygiene and sanitation equipment used.
4. Leave the room and remove personal protective equipment in the sequence indicated.
5. Proceed with hand hygiene.
6. Use the stepladder to put the divider curtains, curtains and valance back on the window, if applicable.
7. Fill the dispensers with paper and soap.
8. Put general garbage bags back in the garbage bins.
9. Proceed with hand hygiene.

