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Research Administration

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DISINFECTION GUIDANCE FOR LABORATORIES AND WORKSPACES

The following is guidance for disinfection and protection during the SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) pandemic. Particular attention should be given to 'high touch' surfaces. Also refer to guidance provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Please keep in mind and observe the basics of infection control:

- ***Avoid close contact with people who are sick.***
- ***Practice social distancing by maintaining distance (approximately 6 feet or 2 meters) from others.***
- ***Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.***
- ***Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.***
- ***Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.***
- ***Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.***
- ***Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.***
- ***Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover/mask when around others.***

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-ihe-response.html

During the SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) pandemic, Campus Services Building and Residential Services (BRS) team will continue to provide cleaning services for occupied buildings. The focus of the cleaning will be disinfection of high touch surfaces such as door handles, elevator buttons, bathrooms, stair rails, and other surfaces in common areas. This will be conducted by trained teams using an EPA List N disinfectant registered for SARS-CoV-2.

RESEARCH BUILDINGS

BRS will continue to provide disinfection and cleaning services to research buildings. The BRS team will disinfect high touch surface areas such as door handles, elevator buttons, bathrooms, stair rails, and similar surfaces. Detailed guidance is provided in the matrix below.

It should be noted that SARS-CoV-2 and other viruses can exist on surfaces for significant periods of time that can last from hours to days depending on the surface.

The following matrix provides guidance for disinfection of common areas, personal objects, and research areas. Please refer to the EHSO DISINFECTION GUIDELINES AVAILABLE IN THE BIOSAFETY MANUAL (see page 43 or Appendix D) (http://www.ehso.emory.edu/documents/ehs-402-emory-university-biosafety-manual.pdf) for specific recommendations for laboratory disinfection.

EXAMPLES OF EPA-REGISTERED DISINFECTANTS ACTIVE AGAINST SARS-CoV-2:

DISINFECTANT	ACTIVE INGREDIENT	PRESENTATION	EPA REGISTRATION
CLOROX DISINFECTING WIPES	QUATERNARY AMMONIUM	WIPES	5813-79
WAVE	SODIUM HYPOCHLORITE	WIPES	5813-99
CLOROX COMMERCIAL SOLUTIONS® HYDROGEN PEROXIDE CLEANER DISINFECTANT WIPES	HYDROGEN PEROXIDE	WIPES	67619-25
LYSOL® BRAND DISINFECTANT DIRECT MULTI-PURPOSE CLEANER	QUATERNARY AMMONIUM; ETHANOL	WIPES	777-66
LYSOL® DISINFECTANT SPRAY	QUATERNARY AMMONIUM	SPRAY	777-99

IMPORTANT NOTES: ALLOW FOR ADEQUATE CONTACT TIME. PLEASE REFER TO EPA: LIST N FOR A FULL LIST OF PRODUCTS THAT MEET EPA'S CRITERIA FOR USE AGAINST SARS-COV-2. DISINFECTANTS THAT DEMONSTRATE EFFICACY AGAINST 'HUMAN CORONAVIRUSES' MAY ALSO BE USED.

DISINFECTION MATRIX BY AREA

AREA/SPACE/EQUIPMENT/ITEM	DISINFECTANT	FREQUENCY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY
OFFICE/WORKSPACE	QUATERNARY AMMONIUM	RETURNING TO YOUR WORKSPACE	OWNER
WORKSTATION (KEYBOARD AND MOUSE)	QUATERNARY AMMONIUM, 70% ETHANOL	RETURNING TO YOUR WORKSPACE	OWNER
TELEPHONE	QUATERNARY AMMONIUM, 70% ETHANOL	AS NEEDED	OWNER
ELECTRONICS	QUATERNARY AMMONIUM, 70% ETHANOL	AS NEEDED	OWNER
DESK SURFACES AND CHAIRS	QUATERNARY AMMONIUM	TWICE PER DAY	OWNER
BREAK AREAS	CHLORINE BASED MIST	TWICE PER DAY	BRS
MICROWAVE DOOR HANDLES	QUATERNARY AMMONIUM, 10% BLEACH, 70% ETHANOL	AS NEEDED	OWNER
COUNTER TOPS	QUATERNARY AMMONIUM, 10% BLEACH, 70% ETHANOL	TWICE PER DAY	OWNER/BRS
REFRIGERATOR HANDLES	QUATERNARY AMMONIUM, 10% BLEACH, 70% ETHANOL	TWICE PER DAY	OWNER/BRS
BATHROOMS	QUATERNARY AMMONIUM, 10% BLEACH	TWICE PER DAY	BRS
COMMON AREAS	CHLORINE BASED MIST	TWICE PER DAY	BRS
LABORATORY AREAS	QUATERNARY AMMONIUM, 10% BLEACH, 70% ETHANOL	AS NEEDED; AFTER A SPILL	OWNER
DOOR HANDLES	CHLORINE BASED MIST	TWICE PER DAY	BRS
BENCH SURFACES	QUATERNARY AMMONIUM, 10% BLEACH, 70% ETHANOL	AS NEEDED; AFTER A SPILL	OWNER
EQUIPMENT HANDLES	QUATERNARY AMMONIUM, 70% ETHANOL	AT THE END OF THE DAY; AFTER A SPILL	OWNER

IMPORTANT NOTE: LIQUID DISINFECTANT SHOULD NOT BE DIRECTLY SPRAYED ON SURFACES, THIS COULD CAUSE AEROSOLIZATION OF SURFACE CONTAMINANTS. INSTEAD, SPRAY PAPER TOWEL OR CLOTH UNTIL MOISTENED AND THEN WIPE THE SURFACE.

DISINFECTION OF LABORATORY SPACES AFTER PERSONNEL HAS TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

In the event a laboratory has housed a known COVID-19 positive person, enhanced disinfection procedures will be implemented. This includes halting experiments in a safe manner, vacating the laboratory, and posting notice to not enter the area. A member of the Environmental Health and Safety Office (EHSO) will evaluate the area and perform disinfection activities as required. Laboratory personnel will be advised when it is safe to resume work.

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE AND INFORMATION

- CDC: Interim Recommendations for US Households with Suspected/Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019.
- CDC: Resources for Institutes of Higher Education – Plan, prepare, and respond to coronavirus disease 2019.
- CDC: Interim Guidance for Administrators of US Institutions of Higher Education – Plan, Prepare and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019.
- Students Traveling – CDC: Guidance for Institutions of Higher Education with Students Participating in International Travel or Study Abroad Programs.
- ACHA Guidelines: Preparing for COVID-19 (PDF).
- ECDC: Interim guidance for environmental cleaning in non-healthcare facilities exposed to SARS-CoVCoV-2 – Guidance about the environmental cleaning in non-healthcare facilities (e.g. rooms, public offices, transports, schools, etc.) where confirmed COVID-19 cases have been before being admitted to hospital (PDF).
- Journal of Hospital Infection: Persistence of coronaviruses on inanimate surfaces and their inactivation with biocidal agents (PDF).
- EPA: List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2.
- Michigan State University: COVID-19 – Disinfecting with Bleach.