



# Managing Cleaning And Disinfection In The Healthcare Environment: Prioritizing Disinfectants

## Implementing effective cleaning when disinfectants are in short supply

When disinfectant supplies are limited, the use of a temporary disinfection strategy is suggested

A 4 part program is suggested:



### 1 Assess and categorize areas of care

Identify and categorize risk areas for infection transmission



#### Some suggested high risk areas

- OR, ICU, ER, Labs, PACU, Cath Lab
- Confirmed/PUI COVID-19 Patient rooms
- COVID-19 shared equipment



#### Some suggested medium risk areas

- Public restrooms
- Post op surgical unit
- Medical unit
- Pre and post-op areas



#### Some suggested low risk areas

- Office spaces
- Cafeteria
- Wait areas (non-ER)
- MOB visitor chairs, counters, etc.

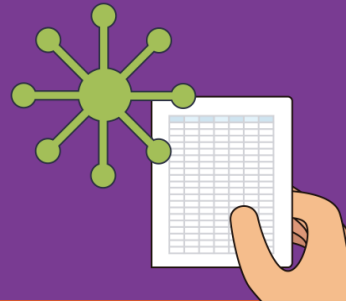
### 2 Gather and assess inventory

With EVS collaboration, gather and inventory current cleaning tools and chemicals



Once gathered, group into hospital disinfectants, glass cleaners, all-purpose cleaners, etc.

Identify candidates for higher level disinfection based on facility protocol



Consider centralizing storage and distribution of all disinfectants.

Have all product inventoried and assess days of supply

### 3 Evaluate emergency changes

Assess processes and which parts of the cleaning process can be paired down first



Based on risk-assessment and facility policy, some surfaces may be disinfected differently to conserve resources (i.e.) liquid disinfectant and cloth instead of pre-wetted wipes.



Assess tasks that use a large volume of disinfectant, such as floor mopping. Alternate or eliminate the use of disinfectants for floor mopping when feasible. Consider if low risk surface disinfection might be done on a spot/less-frequent basis.

### 4 Consider protocol and logistics



Identify tiers of areas and surfaces:

- 1) Disinfectant all the time
- 2) Disinfectant some of the time except on high risk surface or in high risk areas
- 3) Cleaning, followed by bleach solution and/or 70% alcohol



Disinfectant Use and Prioritization For surfaces being disinfected:

- Surfaces disinfection frequency should be a function of touch frequency and risk of COVID-19 or other pathogens
- Use of a sanitizer after cleaning is better than cleaning alone
- For food contact surfaces, similar criteria apply