Cleaning and Disinfecting
after a confirmed COVID-19 case

It is important to clean and disinfect spaces in order to avoid further spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19). This document can help guide you on what areas to disinfect, what disinfecting products to use, how to disinfect, what protective equipment to wear, and who should disinfect the contaminated areas. The cleaning procedures in this document should reduce any health hazard risk.

What to Clean:

- **Clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces.** Focus on bathrooms, common areas, and areas where the person with COVID-19 was for extended periods of time. Concentrate on high touch surfaces such as tables, hard-backed chairs, doorknobs, light switches, handles, desks, toilets, and sinks.
- **Wear disposable gloves when cleaning and disinfecting surfaces.** All gloves should be thrown away after each cleaning/disinfection and should not be used for other purposes. Gloves should be changed if torn.
- **Clean hands immediately** after gloves are removed and thrown away.

How to Clean and Disinfect:

If surfaces are dirty, clean surfaces using a detergent or soap and water before disinfection.

HARD SURFACES

- For disinfection, clean surfaces using diluted household bleach solutions, alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol, or most common EPA-registered household disinfectants.
- Use diluted household bleach solutions. Follow manufacturer's instructions for application and proper ventilation.
- Make sure the product is not expired.
- Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.

SOFT (POROUS) SURFACES

- Remove visible contamination if present and clean with appropriate cleaners indicated for use on soft surfaces.
- Launder items following the manufacturer's instructions.
- If possible, launder items using the warmest water setting for the items and dry items completely.
- If you cannot launder items, use EPA-registered products for emerging viral pathogens that work for soft surfaces.

What Products to Use:

- Household bleach will be effective against COVID-19 when properly diluted.

PREPARE A BLEACH SOLUTION BY MIXING:

- 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) bleach per gallon of water or 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water
- Do **NOT** use expired household bleach
- Wipe bleach solution onto the surface and allow the surface to air-dry
- Other EPA-registered household disinfectant products are expected to be effective against COVID-19. **Follow the manufacturer's instructions** for all cleaning and disinfection products (e.g., concentration, application method and contact time, etc.).

LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION?

Visit the CDC environmental cleaning and disinfection website for updated information.

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