

Cleaning of the Transport Incubator

Decontamination and Disinfection Policy

Disinfection means the destruction of vegetative bacteria and viruses. Spores are not destroyed. The aim is to reduce contamination to safe levels. Chemicals that achieve this result are known as disinfectants. Such procedures are used when sterilisation is impracticable. An example is:

- Treatment of non-autoclavable equipment in contact with infectious cases

Cleaning

Cleaning is the most basic form of disinfection and may be described as the removal of micro-organisms. Thorough cleaning is an extremely useful method of decontamination and the use of soap or detergent in hot water will remove most micro-organisms from surfaces. It is essential that cleaning takes place in order to remove organic matter prior to disinfecting products. Inadequate cleaning means that solutions used to achieve disinfection may not be adequately effective as deposits of organic materials may inactivate the disinfectant and may also prevent the disinfectant from reaching all surfaces of the item. This may mean that disinfection may not be achieved. An item that is not cleaned first must not be disinfected.

Chlorine Releasing Solutions

Chlorine solutions are good disinfectants providing the products to be disinfected are free from organic matter. Chlorine solution is not very stable, therefore, when the policy stipulates its use a fresh solution must be made using effervescent Mini Haz-Tab® tablets. These solutions are corrosive for metals.

Solution Preparation

- Add the Mini Haz-Tab® disinfectant tablet(s) to the Mini Haz-Tab® container as per container instructions and add the required volume of cold water. (4 tablets in 1000mls gives 1,000 ppm solution).
- Secure the cap
- Allow effervescing and dissolving (approx. 3 minutes)
- Mix solution by gently inverting container several times before use, do not shake.
- Use for the desired purpose and discard any unused solution
- Wash out the container and store back in the sluice

Regular Cleaning of Transport Incubators and Leads Between babies

- Wipe over all surfaces of the incubator internally and external, mattress and monitoring leads with hot water and neutral detergent, then dry thoroughly. Or sani-cloth detergent wet wipes and dry thoroughly.
- If visibly contaminated with blood or bodily fluids follow with Mini Haz-Tab® 1,000 ppm solution.
- The transport incubator and equipment should be kept clean and dust free daily

Cleaning of Transport Incubator After a Baby Confirmed Infection or MRSA

- Wash hands and don disposable apron and gloves, place all disposables in a yellow clinical waste bag. Bedding to be placed in a separate red bag lined with a dissolvable aquafilm bag. Both bags then stored for collection in designated area.
- Dismantle the incubator following the photographic guide.
- Wash all surfaces and leads with neutral detergent and hot water using a clean disposable cloth or the sani-cloth detergent wet wipes rinse and then repeat with a with Mini Haz-Tab® solution of 1000 ppm. Leave to dry and then rinse with water to avoid streakiness.
- Reassemble the incubator and leave empty for 24 hours if possible.
- Dispose of apron and gloves in yellow clinical waste bag.

Step by Step Guide to Dismantle the Transport Incubator for Cleaning

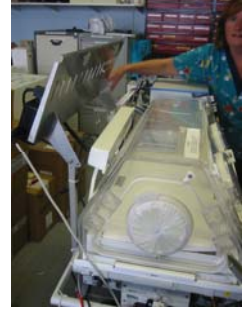
1. Remove monitor from top shelf, release by pushing button under front (see photo 1).
2. Remove fixing pin on shelf to tip shelf up out of the way (see photo 2 & 3).
3. Unclip the four retaining clips, two front & two rear (see photo 4).
4. Lift both the inner and outer hoods off the base (see photo 5).
5. Remove mattress and slide mattress base halfway out, release spring underneath (see photo 6) and slide out completely.
6. Lift moulded base unit off (see photo 7).
7. If suction unit has been used, remove from holder behind ventilator and strip down and clean as above.



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References;

CMMC Infection Control Manual Decontamination and Disinfection Policy, Jan 2006

CMMC Infection Control Manual , MRSA Policy, Jan 2006