

TOY CLEANING - SCH

POLICY®

DOCUMENT SUMMARY/KEY POINTS

- To provide guidelines for toy selection and cleaning methods to minimise the risk of infection from toys used in therapy and/or play.
- **Toy selection**
 - Cleaning must be taken into account when toys are selected or purchased.
 - Toy surfaces should be selected for their suitability to withstand heat disinfection or when necessary, chemical disinfection.
 - Departments providing toys should be audited annually for compliance and toy cleanliness.
 - Fabric, soft fluffy toys and toys capable of retaining water are not suitable for health care facilities.
 - These principles must be applied to donated toys
- **Outbreaks and Infectious Diseases**
 - When toys are handled by patients with communicable infections (such as RSV Bronchiolitis and / or Gastroenteritis, Chickenpox etc.) they must be cleaned and disinfected before reuse.
 - Following **any communicable disease outbreak** all toys must be cleaned and disinfected before reopening the ward

Approved by:	SCHN Policy, Procedure and Guideline Committee	
Date Effective:	1 st August 2014	Review Period: 3 years
Team Leader:	Clinical Nurse Consultant	Area/Dept: Infection Control

CHANGE SUMMARY

- SCH Document due for review.
- **Toy Cleaning Policy** merged with **Toy Cleaning Infection Control Grid**.
- Transferred to SCHN policy system and style.

READ ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

- Read Acknowledge Only
 - Managers of SCH (Randwick Campus) and community departments who provide toys.
 - Allied Health.
 - Nursing and Midwifery staff.
 - Diagnostic staff.
 - Hotel Services staff.

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Toy Selection

- Cleaning must be taken into account when toys are selected or purchased.
- Toy surfaces should be selected for their suitability to withstand heat disinfection or when necessary, chemical disinfection (sodium hypochlorite or 70% Isopropyl Alcohol).
- Departments providing toys should be audited annually for compliance and toy cleanliness (Appendix 1).
- Fabric, soft fluffy toys and toys capable of retaining water are not suitable for health care facilities.
- These principles must be applied to donated toys.
- Wherever possible, planning should promote fixed toy activity stations that can be regularly cleaned as part of daily cleaning regime.
- Toys brought from home must be kept with the child and only used by that child.

Cleaning

- All departments providing toys for therapy, recreation or education must have a toy cleaning regime which is developed in liaison with the cleaning department and Infection Control.
- The toy cleaning regime must document how and when the toys are cleaned.
- Visibly soiled toys shall be thoroughly cleaned with water and detergent.
- All toys should be cleaned regularly.
- Fixed toys (playhouses, climbing equipment, activity stations etc.) must be scheduled into the daily cleaning regime.
- Mouthing Toys used by children older than 6 months must be cleaned prior to re-use.

Disinfection

- Mouthing toys used by infants less than six months must be cleaned with neutral detergent then disinfected.
- Disinfectant containers shall be labelled and have sodium hypochlorite solution diluted to 1:80 which is changed daily.
- The containers must include the date the solution was made up.
- All articles must be completely submerged. Air bubbles must be removed.
- A minimum of 60 minutes is necessary for complete disinfection. (Milton Fact Sheet) (NHMRC 1996) WH&S.
- Avoid eye contact with the disinfectant. The solution may irritate broken skin when undiluted.
- Keep the disinfectant out of reach of children.
- Disposable cloths impregnated with 70% Alcohol may be used to disinfect toys that are not visibly soiled.

Outbreaks and children with communicable diseases

- When toys are handled by patients with communicable infections (such as RSV Bronchiolitis and / or Gastroenteritis, Chickenpox etc.) they must be cleaned and disinfected before reuse.
- Following **any communicable disease outbreak** all toys must be cleaned and disinfected before reopening the ward.

Children with Cystic Fibrosis

- Children with Cystic Fibrosis need their own toys as they may be adversely affected by handling toys that were handled by other children.

Annual cleanliness audit

Departments providing toys should be audited annually for compliance and toy cleanliness.

Documentation

- Annual Audit.
- Cleaning schedule.
- Risk Assessment.

References

1. Rogers M et al Rotavirus outbreak on a paediatric oncology floor: Possible association with toys. American Journal of Infection Control. 28; 5: 378-380 October 2000
2. Davies M, Bacterial Colonisation of Toys in Neonatal Intensive Care Cots. Paediatrics 106; 2 : e1. August 2000,
3. Merriman E, Corwin P, Ikram R Toys are a potential source of cross Infection in general practitioners waiting rooms. British Journal of General Practice 2002; 52:138-140.
4. NSW Health PD2005_247. Infection Control Policy. 2002
5. Gray J W. MRSA; the problem reaches paediatrics. Arch Dis Child 2004; 89 pp 297-298
6. Avila-Aguero M, et al Toys in a paediatric hospital. Are they a bacterial source? Safe toys Study Group presented at the 40th Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy Toronto, Canada. Abstract 1589 September 2000

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Toy Cleaning and Infection Control Grid

DISEASE	ISOLATE/PRECAUTIONS	CLEANING REQUIREMENTS	TOYS
Gastrointestinal Infections:			
CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE (toxin only)	YES (all symptomatic children) – Contact Precautions	Bleach Cleaning ONLY Use green hand soap only DO NOT use alcohol wipes or alcohol hand rub	Disposable toys only e.g. paper
GASTROENTERITIS (except Norovirus and Clostridium difficile)	YES (all symptomatic children) – Contact Precautions	Use detergent or alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
NOROVIRUS	YES – Droplet Precautions (if vomiting and explosive diarrhoea)	Bleach Cleaning Use green hand soap only Use Alcohol wipes	Disposable toys only e.g. paper
Respiratory Infections:			
CROUP	YES – Droplet Precautions	Use detergent or alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
HUMAN METAPNEUMOVIRUS (HMPV)	YES – Droplet Precautions	Use detergent or alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
INFLUENZA A & B	YES – Droplet Precautions	Use detergent or alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
PARAFLU 1, 2 or 3	YES – Droplet Precautions	Use detergent or alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
PERTUSSIS (Immune staff only to care for children with Pertussis)	YES – Droplet Precautions	Use detergent or alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS & UNKNOWN NPA STATUS	YES all symptomatic children – Droplet Precautions	Use detergent or alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
RSV	YES – Droplet Precautions	Use detergent or alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
Multiple Resistant Organisms (MRO's):			
BURKHOLDERIA CEPACIA	YES– Contact Precautions CF patients only	Use detergent or alcohol wipes	Any toys, except fluffy toys
Multiple Resistant Gram Negative organism - ESBL	YES – Contact Precautions	Use Alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
MBL & MRAB	YES – Contact Precautions – with gowns	Bleach Cleaning ONLY	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
MRSA & VISA	YES – contact precautions	Use Alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
VRE	YES – Contact Precautions – with gowns	Use Alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
Vaccine Preventable Diseases:			
CHICKEN POX (Immune staff only to care for children with Chicken pox)	YES – Airborne Precautions	Use Alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
CHICKEN POX CONTACTS	YES all non immune contacts – Airborne Precautions	Use Alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic

MEASLES (Immune staff only to care for children with Measles)	YES – Airborne Precautions	Use Alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
MEASLES CONTACT	YES all non immune contacts – Airborne Precautions	Use Alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
MUMPS (Immune staff only to care for children with Mumps)	YES – Droplet Precautions	Use Alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
RUBELLA & RUBELLA – CONGENITAL (Immune staff only to care for children with Rubella)	YES – Droplet Precautions Congenital Rubella – Contact Precautions for 1 year after birth	Use Alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
RUBELLA CONTACTS	YES all non immune contacts – Droplet Precautions	Use Alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
SHINGLES ZOSTER	YES – Contact Precautions	Use Alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
SHINGLES / ZOSTER (Immune-compromised)	YES – Airborne Precautions	Use Alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
Other Infectious Diseases:			
CYTOMEGALOVIRUS (CMV)	Standard Precautions	Use detergent or alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
HAND FOOT AND MOUTH (Coxsackie Virus)	YES – Contact Precautions	Use Alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
HEPATITIS B & C	NO - Standard precautions only	Use detergent or alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
HERPES SIMPLEX VIRUS	YES (if disseminated cutaneous but not cold sores) – Contact Precautions	Use Alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
IMPETIGO	YES (for first 24 hours of treatment) – Contact Precautions	Use detergent or alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
LICE – Head or Body	YES (for first 24 hours of treatment) – Contact Precautions	Use detergent or alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
MENINGITIS (ALL TYPES)/MENINGOCOCCAL	YES (for first 24 hours of IVAB's) – Droplet Precautions	Use detergent or alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
SCABIES	YES (for first 24 hours of treatment) – Contact Precautions	Use detergent or alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic
TUBERCULOSIS	YES if active pulmonary disease - Airborne Precautions (discuss with Infection Control)	Wear N95/P2 masks Use Alcohol wipes	Toys that can be wiped clean, e.g. plastic

Notes on Cleaning:

- **General or Normal cleaning** involves cleaning with a neutral detergent..
- **Bleach Cleaning** involves cleaning with a bleach solution (made up to manufacturer's specifications).
- **Alcohol wipes** are disposable cloths impregnated with a 70% Isopropyl alcohol solution.