USAID MTaPS PROGRAM: COVID-19 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Procedures for Disinfection of COVID-19 Isolation Ward Area Patients

Follow standard infection prevention control practices at all times. These include:

- Hand hygiene
- Using personal protective equipment (e.g., water-resistant apron, gloves, masks, eyewear)
- Safe handling of sharps and infectious waste
- Disinfecting instruments and devices used on the patient
- Disinfecting linen and cleaning and disinfecting environmental surfaces

The following guidelines shall be followed to disinfect isolation ward areas for COVID-19.

1. Disinfection of Floors and Walls
   - Visible pollutants shall be completely removed before disinfection and handled in accordance with disposal procedures for blood and bodily fluid spills.
   - Disinfect the floor and walls with 1,000 mg/L chlorine-containing disinfectant by mopping, spraying, or wiping the floor; make sure that disinfection is conducted for at least 30 minutes.
   - Carry out disinfection three times a day and repeat the procedure any time there is contamination.

2. Disinfection of Object Surfaces
   - Visible pollutants should be completely removed before disinfection and handled in accordance with disposal procedures for blood and bodily fluid spills.
   - Wipe the surfaces of objects with 1,000 mg/L chlorine-containing disinfectant or wipes with effective chlorine; wait for 30 minutes and then rinse with clean water. Reusable linen and contaminated clothing must be laundered immediately using the highest possible water temperature.
   - Perform disinfection procedures three times a day (repeat any time contamination is suspected).
   - Wipe cleaner regions first, then more contaminated regions. First wipe object surfaces that are not frequently touched, and then wipe object surfaces that are frequently touched. (Once an object surface is wiped clean, replace the used wipe with a new one.)

3. Air Disinfection
   - Plasma air sterilizers can be used and continuously run for air disinfection in an environment with human activity.
   - If a plasma air sterilizer is not available, use ultraviolet lamps for 1 hour each time. Perform this operation three times a day.

REFERENCES


The USAID Medicines, Technologies, and Pharmaceutical Services (MTaPS) program helps low- and middle-income countries to strengthen their pharmaceutical systems, pivotal to better health outcomes and higher-performing health systems. The program is implemented by a consortium of global and local partners, led by Management Sciences for Health (MSH), a global health nonprofit.

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