



JBM Janitorial’s Medical Facility Process Explained

“JBM Janitorial’s medical facility cleaning process is effective at surface cleanliness, infection prevention and control.”

Patients, staff, and visitors entering medical facilities carry bacteria, viruses, and other germs/microbes. Because of this, cleaning and disinfecting are some of the most important steps in preventing the cross contamination of infectious disease in medical facilities.

General cleaning involves the removal of dirt and dust using detergents, class cleaners and other scouring products. This facet of hospital cleaning is similar to that of an office or retail building.

In certain areas of the hospital, the use of disinfectants is critical to reduce the risk of infection. Disinfection is generally defined as reducing the number of microbes on a surface to low levels. Reducing microbial levels involves the use of chemicals, which are considered pesticides and vary in degree of toxicity.

The varying levels of disinfection used in a medical facility may be defined by Spaulding’s Classification (CDC, 2003). Spaulding’s levels, non-critical, semi-critical, and critical, are based on the potential for infectious disease spread via equipment, instruments, and furniture as well as the level of sterility normally required for the body part coming in contact with it. Levels of disinfection that correlate with Spaulding’s classification are low, intermediate, high, and sterilization. The US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has further delineated disinfection levels for environmental surfaces in its “Guidelines for Environmental Infection Control in Health-Care Facilities”.

Ultimately, lobby areas often need cleaning only; patient rooms need cleaning and low level disinfecting and surgical rooms require high-level disinfection. These complex regimens can create confusion, which can lead to multiple disinfectants being used or surfaces unnecessarily being disinfected. This practice results in an increased use of pesticides, exposure risk for staff and patients, and potential for spreading antimicrobial resistance.

Without systems in place for selecting and purchasing the right cleaning chemicals a facility may be a hazard to staff, visitors and patients. Which is why you can trust JBM Janitorial to provide the right products, tools and equipment paired with our knowledge, your medical facility is in good hands.

The following list shows how we classify a variety of commonly used items found throughout areas of medical facilities. It is organized according to Spaulding’s levels and by the degree of cleanliness or disinfection needed. Cleaning and disinfecting helps medical facilities ensure adequate infection prevention, while reducing cleaning times, minimizing patient and staff exposures to toxic chemicals, and reducing procurement costs.

Patient Care Areas

Patient Room

All surfaces are Spaulding classified as non-critical. The list below indicates the appropriate level of clean or disinfection for surfaces typically found in a hospital patient care room..

Neutral Cleaner
Bed cords
Bedside table (where phone is)
Blinds
Cabinet
Cabinet handles
Carpet floor
Chair adjuster remote - plastic
Chairs-plastic
Chairs - vinyl seat & cloth back
Chairs - vinyl

Neutral Cleaner
Clock

Cloth chairs
Coat hooks
Coat rack
Computer
Cords
Cords and tubes on wall
Countertops
Curtain
Desk chair
Desk/countertop
Display case
Door
Door handle
Electric cords
Fan
Floor
Foot pumps for soap
Hand mirror - plastic
Intercom on wall
Lamp
Light fixtures
Lights on ceilings
Lockers
Metal racks
Metal shelves
Microwave
Mirror
Monitors and cords
Oxygen tank
Oxygen units on wall
Paper towel dispenser
Patient food table
Pictures on walls
Power cords
Racks
Radio
Sharps container
Shelves
Shelves - wood & metal
Sides of exam table
Table
Tile floor
TV
Valves on wall
VCR
Vents

Wall equipment
Walls
White board
Window
Window sill
Low Level Disinfectant
Baby scale
Bassinet
Bed equipment
Blood pressure equipment
Crutches
Drawer handles
Emergency button
Emergency call cord
Equipment knobs
High chairs
Incubator
Infant warmer
IV stand
Keyboard
Lifts
Light switches
Linen bag handles
Lounge chair in patient room
Remote
Telephone
Telephone cord
Units on walls
Wheel chairs
Low Level Disinfectant/Removal
Suction canisters
Low Intermediate Level Disinfectant
Bed
Bed mattress
Bedrails

Patient Exam Rooms

First categorized by Spaulding classification and then within each chart by appropriate levels of clean or disinfection for surfaces typically found in a patient exam room.

Non-critical

Neutral Cleaner
Blinds
Cabinet
Cabinet handles

Carpet floor
Chairs - plastic
Chairs - vinyl seat & cloth back
Chairs - vinyl
Clock
Cloth chairs
Coat hooks
Coat rack
Computer
Cords
Cords and tubes on wall
Countertops
Curtain
Desk chair
Desk/countertop
Display Case
Door
Door handle
Electric cords
Fan
Floor
Foot pumps for soap
Foot stool
Foot stool on exam table
Gloves holder
Intercom on wall
Lamp
Light fixtures
Lights on ceilings
Metal cart
Metal racks
Metal shelves
Mirror
Monitors and cords
Paper towel dispenser
Pictures on walls
Power cords
Racks
Sharps container
Shelves
Shelves wood & metal
Sides of exam table
Step stool
Stool
Tile floor
Trash can

Valves on wall
Vents
Wall equipment
Walls
Window
Window sill
Low Level Disinfectant
Blood pressure equipment
Crutches
Drawer handles
Emergency button
Emergency call cord
Equipment knobs
Exam chair
Height measurer
Hot/Cold shower handles
Keyboard
Lifts
Light switches
Linen bag handles
Oxygen tank
Telephone
Telephone cord
Units on walls
Wheel chairs
Low Level Disinfectant
Exam table

Semi-Critical to Non-Critical

Low Level Disinfectant
Exam table

Operating Room

First categorized by Spaulding classification and then within each chart by appropriate levels of clean or disinfection for surfaces typically found in an operating room.

Non-Critical

Neutral Cleaner
Tile floor
Trash can
Valves on wall
Wall equipment
Walls
Window
Window sill

Low Level Disinfectant
Units on walls
Low Level Disinfectant/Removal
Suction canisters

Semi-Critical

Low Level Disinfectant
Operating table

Ancillary Area

Waiting Room

All surfaces in this area are Spaulding classified as non-critical. The list below indicates the appropriate level of clean or disinfection for surfaces typically found in a clinic or hospital waiting room.

Neutral Cleaner
Chairs - plastic
Chairs - vinyl seat & cloth back
Chairs - vinyl
Clock
Cloth chairs
Coat hooks
Coat rack
Computer
Cords
Cords and tubes on wall
Countertops
Curtain
Desk chair
Desk/countertop
Display case
Door
Door handle
Electric cords
Fan
Floor
Fold up chairs
Ice/Water machine
Light fixtures
Lights on ceilings
Monitors and cords
Pictures on walls
Power cords
Racks
Shelves
Shelves wood & metal

Tile floor
Trash can
TV
VCR
Vinyl bench
Wall equipment
Walls
Water fountain
Window
Window sill
X-ray light
Low Level Disinfectant
Crutches
Drawer handles
Keyboard
Light switches
Remote
Telephone
Telephone cord

Dining Area

All surfaces in this area are Spaulding classified as non-critical. The list below indicates the appropriate level of clean or disinfection for surfaces typically found in a hospital dining area.

Neutral Cleaner
Refrigerator
Table
Tile floor
Trash can
Vents
Wall equipment
Walls
Window
Window sill
Low Level Disinfectant
Units on walls

Work Station

All surfaces in this area are Spaulding classified as non-critical. The list below indicates the appropriate level of clean or disinfection for surfaces typically found in a medical work station.

Neutral Cleaner
Refrigerator for flowers
Tile floor

Trash can
Ultra warmer for gel
Vents
Wall equipment
Walls
Window
Window sill
Low Level Disinfectant
Ultrasound equipment
Units on walls
Stethoscopes

Additional Resources

- Centers for Disease Control
www.cdc.gov
- Green Seal www.greenseal.org/

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