



Norwalk and Norwalk-Like Virus **Cleaning and Disinfection Protocol** **for Use in Hotels, Motels and** **Cruise Ships**

This document has been developed in accordance with current applicable infection control and regulatory guidelines. It is intended for use as a guideline only. At no time should this document replace existing documents established by the facility unless written permission has been obtained from the responsible facility manager.

PREFACE

NAME: *Norwalk virus*

SYNONYM OR CROSS REFERENCE: Acute viral gastroenteritis, Norwalk-like disease, epidemic viral gastroenteritis, acute infectious nonbacterial gastroenteritis, viral diarrhea, epidemic diarrhea and vomiting, winter vomiting disease, epidemic nausea and vomiting

CHARACTERISTICS: *Caliciviridae*; round, non-enveloped, 27-32 nm viron; single-stranded positive - sense RNA

INFECTIOUS AGENT¹

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HEALTH HAZARD

PATHOGENICITY: Abrupt onset of diarrhea, vomiting, non-bloody diarrhea and abdominal cramps; 25-50% of affected persons report myalgias, malaise, headache, nausea and low-grade fever; illness usually resolves within 24-48 hours; fatality is associated with electrolyte imbalance; symptoms can persist for up to several weeks; higher risk of symptomatic infection in individuals with pre-existing levels of antigen-specific antibodies have been documented

EPIDEMIOLOGY: Worldwide and common; affects mainly older children and adults; frequent outbreaks in camps, schools, nursing homes, cruise ships and areas with contaminated drinking and swimming water; outbreaks are limited to 1-2 weeks

HOST RANGE: Humans

INFECTIOUS DOSE: Not known

MODE OF TRANSMISSION: Principally by fecal-oral route; other documented sources include water, food (particularly shellfish and salads), aerosol and fomites

INCUBATION PERIOD: From 10-60 hours; usually 24-48 hours

¹ PHAC, Material Safety Data Sheet – Infectious Substances: *Norwalk virus*. <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/msds-ftss/msds112e.html>



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COMMUNICABILITY: Communicable during the acute stage of the disease; up to 48 hours after resolution of symptoms; pre-symptomatic shedding has been implicated in epidemiological studies

PREPARATION

Norwalk and Norwalk like viruses are highly contagious. Appropriate personal protection must be taken for those responsible for the decontamination of a room or area.

PROTECTIVE BARRIERS

For your own health, use personal protective equipment. Wear disposable (one time use) gloves and mask, for your safety, before entering area. If necessary, you may need to wear plastic apron, face shield and/or boots. When finished, remove gloves carefully, from the inside out, to ensure/avoid contact with outer layer. Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water after this.

CLEANING SUPPLIES

Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide Surface Disinfectant (sold as 7% Virox 5 Concentrate, Virox 5 Ready-To-Use and/ or Virox 5 Wipes, 7% PerCept Concentrate, PerCept RTU or PerCept Wipes, 7% Accel Surface Cleaner Disinfectant Concentrate, Accel RTU or Accel Wipes) and 0.5% Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide Tuberculocidal Surface Disinfectant (sold as Accel TB RRU, Accel TB Wipes, Oxivir Tb RTU, Oxivir Tb Wipes and Carpe Diem Tb RTU or Carpe Diem Tb Wipes)

1. Preparation of solution - Pre-mix and label from a controlled location 7% AHP Concentrate at a ratio of 1:16 (0.5% AHP).
2. Place mixed solution in either a labeled - flip top 1 Litre bottle or a small hand bucket.
3. AHP RTU is ready to use (0.5% AHP).
4. AHP Wipes are ready to use (0.5% AHP).

PRODUCT GERMICIDAL EFFICACY

All products listed above are based upon Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide – have a General Virucide Claim against Poliovirus Type 1, Sabin Strain, which includes inactivation of both enveloped and non-enveloped viruses. In addition to the General Virucide Claim, Virox 5 has been proven to show efficacy against HIV, Human Coronavirus, Human Rhinovirus, Human Rotavirus, Canine Parvovirus, Feline Calicivirus (Norovirus) and the H3N2 strain of Avian Influenza A.

PROCEDURES SUMMARY

Seal off affected area, to prevent entry

It is important to seal off the area and restrict access, in order to prevent exposure and keep the visibility low profile. We must also reduce the spread of contaminants, therefore, have people stationed in strategic places, to offer assistance in redirecting the traffic flow.

Consider all surfaces to be potentially affected

It is important to look around and visually inspect the area thoroughly, to ensure all possible contaminants are identified. Think of every surface that may be touched. For example: If a vomit incident were to occur, there may be vomit on the floor but it may have also splattered onto the wall or other nearby surfaces.



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REMOVE SOILED ITEMS (OCCUPIED ROOMS):

Be careful, to avoid further exposure or cross-contamination. Contain as much as possible. Remove all drinking glasses. Remove and dispose trash, rubbish etc. Place the wastebasket and recycle paper holder in shower / tub to be cleaned and sanitized.

Collect and remove all used linens, paying particular attention to bodily fluids, and place in appropriate bag:

- a. Use water-soluble bag for items to be laundered
- b. Use Bio-Hazard bag, if bodily fluids are present (blood, diarrhea, vomit etc) for items to be discarded or incinerated
- c. Remove shower curtain, if applicable
- d. Check mattress (including sides), bed skirting and carpet beside bed for bodily fluids.

Note: Linen items include: Terry items (washcloths, hand towels, bath towels and bath mat, Bed items (sheets, pillow case, pillow covers, mattress pad and bed spread and / or pillows, if visibly soiled

Remove and transfer soiled linen or biohazard bags:

Take the water-soluble bag directly to laundry, so they can be washed immediately. The biohazard bag should be taken directly to the infirmary or other designated area and dispose of appropriately.

CLEAN THE BATHROOM:

Bathtub / Shower Area:

1. Clean tile wall and soap dish
2. Clean showerhead and faucets
3. Scrub bathtub and clean tub stopper
4. Clean all walls, bathroom door and door handle
5. Rinse all surfaces

Sink / Vanity Area:

1. Wipe light fixture, and exhaust
2. Clean vanity mirror
3. Wipe hair dryer, extend hose and clean hose (if applicable)
4. Clean shelf and/or medicine cabinet
5. Clean ashtray(s)
6. Clean vanity counter / sink and faucets, include sink stopper
7. Wipe towel rack, toilet paper dispenser and any other fittings and fixtures
8. Wipe pipes under sink (if exposed).

Toilet

1. Clean and sanitize toilet lid, toilet seat and outside of toilet bowl using a disposable paper wipe
2. Scrub inside of toilet bowl and around the rime with toilet brush
3. Wipe wall behind toilet, and underside of toilet bowl.

Floor

1. Clean bathroom floor including drain cover (if applicable).



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SUPER-SANITIZE THE BATHROOM (OCCUPIED ROOM):

1. Apply **AHP Solution** on ALL surfaces of the bathroom with a clean sponge or cloth (excluding the floor).
2. Reminder: Apply on walls from bottom to top.
3. Let dwell for appropriate contact time.
4. Wet wipe residual after disinfection contact time has elapsed.
5. Thoroughly sanitize the wastebasket, recycle paper holder and bathroom wastebasket.

ROOM CLEANING:

Work from the furthest wall backwards towards the entry door, being sure to cover all surfaces from side to side, and bottom to top.

1. Wipe doors and frames
2. Wipe light fixtures (wall sconces, lamps and lampshades)
3. Wipe mirror
4. Wipe TV, including behind and on top
5. Wipe tables and furniture
6. Wipe upholstered furniture (checking under cushions)
7. Open all closets, and clean all shelves (In vacant cabin: Open and clean all drawers)
8. Wipe/Dust all baseboards
9. Wipe TV Remote Control
10. Wipe telephone
11. Spray carpet spots and blot

ROOM SANITIZING (OCCUPIED ROOM):

Use the **AHP Solution** on applicable surfaces. In general, apply the spray or wipe **ALL** surfaces, with which ever is most appropriate. Work from the furthest wall backwards towards the entry door, being sure to cover all surfaces from side to side, and bottom to top.

1. Spray **AHP Solution** on drapes and glass curtains, both sides (using 32 oz. bottle)
2. Use **AHP Solution** for curtain wands, headboard light-switches and radio controls
3. Spray fancy pillows, bed-skirt, privacy curtain, chair, stool, sofa, etc. without interfering with guest belongs or comfort.
4. Use **AHP Solution** for coffee table top and rim, including telescopic handle control.
5. Use **AHP Solution** on all leather goods. Do not spray with liquid on leather.
6. Wipe remote control and TV (and VCR, if applicable) with **AHP Solution**
7. Wipe Temperature control (thermostat) with **AHP Solution**
8. Wipe drawer handles and under drawer pull opener with **AHP Solution**.
9. Wipe exterior of all books: room directory, literature, and Bible with **AHP Solution**
10. Spray carpet with **AHP Solution**, if visible or known bodily fluids



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ROOM SANITIZING (VACANT ROOMS):

Use **AHP Solution**, on applicable surfaces. In general, apply the spray or wipe **ALL** surfaces, with which ever is most appropriate. Work from the furthest wall backwards towards the entry door, being sure to cover all surfaces from side to side, and bottom to top.

1. Spray **AHP Solution** on drapes & glass curtains, both sides, using hand pump sprayer.
2. Spray/mist **AHP Solution** on all mattresses (top and sides), using hand pump sprayer.
3. Use **AHP Solution** for curtain wand, headboard light-switches and radio controls
4. Spray fancy pillows, bed-skirt, privacy curtain, chair, stool, sofa, etc.
5. Use **AHP Solution** for coffee table top and rim, including telescopic handle control.
6. Use **AHP Solution** on all leather goods. Do not spray with liquid on leather.
7. Wipe with **AHP Solution** remote control and TV (and VCR, if applicable)
8. Wipe with **AHP Solution** Temperature control (thermostat)
9. Using hand pump sprayer, mist closet shelves and hangers and wipe safe, etc.
10. Wipe with **AHP Solution** drawer handles and under drawer pull opener.
11. Wipe with **AHP Solution** exterior of all books: cabin directory, literature and Bible
12. Dispose of all cabin directory inserts stationary/envelopes/postcards and pen.
13. Wipe Lifejacket with **AHP Solution**, inside and out, including thorough cleaning of straps.
14. Using hand pump sprayer, apply **AHP Solution** on carpet from back of cabin to the front.