

5. Specialised Department cleaning

5.1 Operating Theatres

5.1.1 Cleaning operating theatres

5.1.2 Cleaning theatre lights and equipment

5.1.3 Double cleaning operating theatres

Environmental Cleaning Standard Operating Procedures

Module 3

5.1 Operating theatres

5.1.1 Cleaning operating theatres

Purpose:

To safely and effectively clean operating theatres.

Theatres include:

- Operating theatre table systems and accessories
- Medical equipment carrier
- Theatre equipment trolleys
- Walls, doors and surrounds
- Floors
- Mirrors and glass
- Air vents and grilles
- Waste.

Required standard:

- Theatre lights and equipment are free from tapes/plastic, etc, which may compromise cleaning
- Theatre lights and equipment are clean inside and outside and free of stains
- Furniture has no odour that is distasteful or unpleasant
- Theatre lights and equipment are cleaned at the end of each procedure.

Equipment requirements:

- Bucket (as per colour coding requirements)
- Cloth/disposable cloth/microfibre cloth (as per colour coding requirements)
- Personal protective equipment (gloves, gown/apron, protective eyewear, mask and head cover) as required
- Ladder
- Neutral detergent (diluted to the manufacturer's specification).

Risks:

Hazard(s):	Control(s):
Body Stress Injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure correct manual handling techniques and guidelines are followed
Infection Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always wear the correct theatre attire, including overboots
Chemical Injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observe standard precautions for body substance isolation • Do not use more cleaning chemicals than required • Do not mix chemicals
System Failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report any faults to the person in charge

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Key Safety Rules:

- Always first consult clinical or nursing staff before disconnecting any medical equipment
 - Operate equipment in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and facility requirements Install appropriate signage and barriers to maximise public safety during the cleaning operation
 - Always adhere to Standard Precautions, and to Transmission-based Precautions if required/advised to do so
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- Wear personal protective equipment (PPE) that is correct for the cleaning task, and discard or clean and store PPE afterwards as required
 - Use the correct manual handling techniques for the task required
 - Always ensure hand hygiene is performed after each clean and after removing gloves

Procedure:

Step 1	Collect the equipment required for the task
Step 2	Wear personal protective equipment appropriate for the procedure
Step 3	Remove waste
Step 4	Clean the fixtures and fittings in accordance with the correct Procedures: 2.1.2 Damp dusting exhaust fans, rangehoods and air conditioning vents 2.3.2 Cleaning of patient environment 2.5.1 Toilet cleaning 2.5.2 Hand basin/bath cleaning 2.5.4 Cleaning a shower cubicle, general and isolation 5.3.2 Cleaning theatres lights and equipment
Step 5	Clean furniture as per Procedure 2.3 Furnishings and fixtures
Step 6	Clean walls, doors and surrounds and glass under 1.8 m as per Procedure 1.3 Internal / external / glass / window / cleaning
Step 7	Clean floors and skirting boards as per Procedure 1.2 Walls, skirting and ceilings, doors and surrounds, air vents and air conditioners
Step 8	Clean surfaces with damp dusting and high damp dusting as per Procedure 1.2 Walls, skirting and ceilings, doors and surrounds, air vents and air conditioners
Step 9	Clean and remove curtains and bed screens and curtain rails as per Procedure 2.3.2 Cleaning of patient environment
Step 10	Complete surface cleaning as per Procedure 2.3.2 Cleaning of patient environment
Step 11	Manage spills as per Procedure 5.1 Cleaning blood and body substance spills
Step 12	Restock consumables
Step 13	When finished, clean the equipment, perform hand hygiene and store clean equipment in the designated storage area
Step 14	Place cloths in a bag and return to the cleaners' store for laundering or dispose of as appropriate
Step 15	Remove personal protective equipment, and perform hand hygiene

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5.1.2 Cleaning theatre lights and equipment

Purpose:

To safely and effectively clean theatre lights and equipment.

Theatres lights and equipment include:

- Service pendants used in operating theatres
- Operating light systems and light-emitting diode (LED) lights
- Cameras and monitor facilities
- Electrical fixtures and appliances.

Required standard:

- Theatre lights and equipment are free from tapes/plastic, etc, which may compromise cleaning
- Theatre lights and equipment are clean inside and outside and free of stains
- Furniture has no odour that is distasteful or unpleasant
- Theatre lights and equipment are cleaned at the end of each procedure.

Equipment requirements:

- Bucket (as per colour coding requirements)
- Cloth/disposable cloth/microfibre cloth (as per colour coding requirements)
- Personal protective equipment (gloves, gown/apron, protective eyewear, mask and head cover) as required
- Ladder
- Neutral detergent (diluted to the manufacturer's specification).

Risks:

Hazard(s):	Control(s):
Body Stress injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure correct manual handling techniques and guidelines are followed
Operational injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid excessive water around electrical equipment • Never stand on chairs / stools • When working above 1.8m use a step ladder / platform step ladder • Cleaning agent should be used as per manufacturer's instructions

Key Safety Rules:

- Always first consult clinical or nursing staff before disconnecting any medical equipment
- Operate equipment in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and facility requirements Install appropriate signage and barriers to maximise public safety during the cleaning operation
- Always adhere to Standard Precautions, and to Transmission-based Precautions if required/advised to do so
- Wear personal protective equipment (PPE) that is correct for the cleaning task, and discard or clean and store PPE afterwards as required
- Use the correct manual handling techniques for the task required
- Always ensure hand hygiene is performed after each clean and after removing gloves

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Procedure:

Step 1	Consult with the Nursing/Midwifery Unit Manager to determine what equipment is to be cleaned and what cleaning agent is to be used
Step 2	Collect the equipment required for task
Step 3	Wear personal protective equipment appropriate for the procedure
Step 4	Approximately half fill the bucket with water and detergent at the recommended dilution rate
Step 5	Theatre lights require damp dusting
Step 6	If applicable, trolleys should be cleaned using a 1 in 40 neutral detergent solution or cleaning agent
Step 7	Wipe down the trolley with a damp cloth starting with the top
Step 8	Wipe all shelves and wipe underneath each shelf
Step 9	Wipe all vertical surfaces, legs of trolleys and wheels
Step 10	When finished, clean the equipment, perform hand hygiene and store clean equipment in the designated storage area
Step 11	Place the cloths in a bag and return to the cleaners' store for laundering, or dispose of as appropriate
Step 12	Remove personal protective equipment, and perform hand hygiene

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5.1.3 Double cleaning operating theatres

Purpose:

To safely and effectively clean an operating room and/or recovery isolation room that has been used for patients known to be infected with an infectious agent such as:

- Vancomycin-resistant *Enterococci* (VRE),
- Multi-resistant *Acinetobacter baumannii* (MRAB)
- Multi-resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (MRPa).

Operating theatres include:

- Operating theatre table systems and accessories
- Medical equipment carrier
- Theatre equipment trolleys
- Walls, doors and surrounds
- Floors
- Mirrors and glass
- Air vents and grilles
- Waste.

Required standard:

- Theatre lights and equipment are free from tapes/plastic, etc, which may compromise cleaning
- Theatre lights and equipment are clean inside and outside and free of stains
- Furniture has no odour that is distasteful or unpleasant
- Theatre lights and equipment are cleaned at the end of each procedure.

Equipment requirements:

- Trolley
- Bucket x 2 (as per colour coding requirements)
- Cloth/disposable cloth/microfibre cloth (as per colour coding requirements)
- Personal protective equipment (gloves, gown/apron, protective eyewear, mask and head cover) as required
- Ladder
- Neutral detergents (diluted to the manufacturer's specification)
- Clean mop heads x 2 (as per the colour coding requirements)
- Wall and ceiling washing tool with a telescopic handle
- Cautionary signage - e.g. Wet Floor sign x 5 minimum
- Consumables - for restocking after clean is complete
- Sodium hypochlorite solution.

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Risks:

Hazard(s):	Control(s):
Compromise infection prevention and control principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always use a clean mop head and clean disposable cloths for each clean Only use yellow colour coded equipment Perform hand hygiene before and after cleaning the area, and before and after donning personal protective equipment Always wear PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT Do not leave the room until the area is fully cleaned Wipe cleaning equipment with sodium hypochlorite solution before leaving the operating theatre
Body stress injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the correct manual handling techniques and guidelines are followed
Chemical exposure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always wear eye protection when decanting sodium hypochlorite solution and when cleaning above head height Only use sodium hypochlorite in cold water to prevent fumes rising in steam Put water in the bucket before adding the chemical to avoid chemical splash back Dilute all chemicals to the specified dilution rate Do not mix chemicals
Key Safety Rules: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always first consult clinical or nursing staff before disconnecting any medical equipment Operate equipment in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and facility requirements Install appropriate signage and barriers to maximise public safety during the cleaning operation Always adhere to Standard Precautions, and to Transmission-based Precautions if required/advised to do so Wear personal protective equipment (PPE) that is correct for the cleaning task, and discard or clean and store PPE afterwards as required Use the correct manual handling techniques for the task required Always ensure hand hygiene is performed after each clean and after removing gloves 	

Procedure:

Step 1	Collect cleaning equipment from the cleaning cupboard
Step 2	Place the required amount of neutral detergent solution from the dispenser in the cleaning cupboard in one bucket and one mop bucket
Step 3	Wearing gloves and eye protection, prepare the sodium hypochlorite solution in the other bucket and mop bucket - place cold water in the buckets first and then measure the correct amount of sodium hypochlorite and add to the water (50ml in 4 litres of cold water)
Step 4	Put on personal protective equipment before commencing cleaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> long-sleeved disposable impervious gown and gloves waterproof shoe covers eye protection should be worn when cleaning above head height
Step 5	Before commencing cleaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> leave Transmission Based Precautions Signage in place outside each operating theatre door

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • discard all single use/disposable products into the general waste • place linen in a soiled linen bag and remove linen and waste bags to near the trolley outside the door • place floor signs inside the operating room and outside each doorway
Step 6	Nursing staff will complete a neutral detergent (terminal) clean of the work surfaces and equipment inside the theatre
Step 7	Cleaning staff will complete Steps 7 to 20: Spot clean ceilings with the neutral detergent using long handled equipment and disposable cleaning cloth; clean walls, starting from the top and working down; discard the cloth into general waste bag
Step 8	Using long handled equipment, a clean disposable cloth and the sodium hypochlorite solution from the yellow bucket, wipe over all areas of the ceiling that have been spot cleaned, and starting from top and working down wipe over walls and equipment
Step 9	Allow all surfaces to air dry
Step 10	Wipe over all metal surfaces with a clean disposable cloth and the neutral detergent solution to avoid corrosion
Step 11	Mop floor using the neutral detergent solution
Step 12	Moving toward the door, mop all floor surfaces with the sodium hypochlorite solution; allow the floor to air dry
Step 13	Clean all cleaning equipment with the sodium hypochlorite solution from the yellow bucket before it leaves the room
Step 14	Dispose of the PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT and the remaining disposable cleaning equipment into the general waste bag, and perform hand hygiene
Step 15	Don fresh gloves; tie off the waste bag and take it to the disposal room; bag the mop head and take to the disposal room with the soiled linen bag
Step 16	Return cleaning equipment to the cleaning cupboard, and ensure the equipment is stored correctly, the solutions are discarded and the buckets are inverted to air dry
Step 17	Discard the gloves into waste, and perform hand hygiene
Step 18	Page the Nursing/Midwifery Unit Manager or Clinical Coordinator to advise that the clean is complete and give an estimated time when the room will be ready again for use
Step 19	Change into clean theatre attire, discarding used clothing into the general soiled linen
Step 20	Return to the operating room and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • when the floor is completely dry, remove the wet floor signs • remove the transmission based precautions signage • restock/replace consumables • return equipment to the operating room • notify the Nurse/Midwife in charge or Clinical Coordinator that cleaning is complete
Step 21	When the recovery isolation room is ready to be cleaned, begin the procedure again at Step 1, using fresh cleaning solution and clean equipment (Step 4 is not applicable when cleaning recovery isolation rooms)