
MISSOURI DELTA MEDICAL CENTER
HOUSEKEEPING DEPARTMENT

POLICY & PROCEDURE
HOUSEKEEPING #H672
COVID-19 CLEANING GUIDLINES

Effective: 2020

Reviewed: April 2020

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends the limitation of staff members present within the rooms of those patients under suspicion for or confirmed to have COVID-19. For this reason, Missouri Delta Medical Center has limited Environmental Services (EVS) staff duties to **discharge cleaning procedures only** for these patients.

EVS Cleaning Guidance:

- Suspect/confirmed COVID-19 patients **undergoing standard risk activities:**
 - EVS will clean the room adhering to contact precautions (gown and gloves) **AFTER THE PATIENT HAS BEEN DISCHARGED.**
 - EVS will confirm with covering RN that the room is safe to clean (no high-risk activities or critically ill patients).
 - This does **NOT** apply to **COVID-designated** rooms.

- Suspect/confirmed COVID-19 patients **undergoing high risk activities or requiring ICU-level care:**
 - EVS will wait **one hour after patient discharge** (30 minutes for operating rooms) before entering the room and adhering to contact precautions (gown and gloves). If rooms must be turned over for immediate use, or before the one hour wait time, then cleaning will be done by Nursing or EVS staff but they must fully adhere to the precautions shown on room signage.
 - This applies to all COVID-designated rooms requiring airborne precautions.
 - EVS staff will not go into rooms that have routine isolation signs with modifications such as: "Wear Goggles" or "COVID rule out".

- Discharge Cleaning:
 - During discharge cleaning/disinfection of a COVID-19 patient's room, all toilet paper, paper towels and individual hand-soaps or soap bars must be discarded. Remove isolation sign after cleaning has been completed and room has been released for use.

Nursing Cleaning Guidance:

- Please ensure that the appropriate COVID isolation signage is posted outside of patient door. Improper signage may delay EVS discharge cleaning procedures.

- Nursing staff will be responsible for the cleaning of high-risk objects (HROs) within the occupied patient room on a daily basis and as needed when grossly soiled (with full COVID PPEs donned).
Room HROs include:
 - Restroom light switch
 - Restroom door knob
 - Toilet faucet/handrail/hand hold
 - Glass door handle
 - Chair(s) in room
 - Computer keyboards/mouse
 - Bedside rails
 - Light switch
 - Medical equipment

- Nursing staff will also assist with gathering soiled linens, and restocking of patient room supplies to include paper towels, soap, and toilet paper with EVS guidance as needed. Soiled linens will be placed in a water soluble bag and then placed in a clear plastic trash bag and placed in the soiled linen closet. EVS will provide assistance as needed.