

Guidelines For Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA)

Cleaning & Disinfection- VIREX

This is a guideline for using VIREX in the cleaning and disinfecting of *Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus* (MRSA) contamination in commercial, institutional and home environments. This guide may be superceded by local regulations.

ABOUT MRSA

MRSA is a drug-resistant *staphylococcus aureus* bacteria that can be found in schools, homes, workplaces, and wherever people congregate. It can invade the body through a wound, by skin contact with an infected person or from contaminated surfaces. It can be found on towels, countertops, computers, athletic equipment, and even used bars of soap.

MRSA contamination requires thorough cleaning and disinfection of surfaces, paying special attention to common-use areas where cross-contamination is most likely to occur. Virex disinfectant products contain pharmaceutical active ingredients that are EPA-registered to kill MRSA organisms and other disease-causing bacteria, viruses, tuberculosis, mold and mildew. All Virex disinfectant products contain a combination of surfactants that instantly dissolve the soil and biofilm on which bacteria live.

MATERIALS

(See Virex EPA-approved product labels for additional information on use and application methods)

Recommended equipment:

- Rubber gloves and boots
- N-95 mask
- Eye protection

Recommended cleaning materials:

- Paper towels and/or disposable cloths
- Scrub brushes and/or cleaning sponges
- Trigger sprayers or Pressure sprayers (for applying Virex disinfectant)
- Trash bags
- Duct tape for sealing waste bags
- Mops and buckets



- Ultra Low Volume (ULV) fogger (if needed, for fogging or misting Virex onto surfaces or rooms)
- Portable carpet extractor (if needed, for cleaning carpets and upholstery)

PROCEDURES TO DISINFECT MRSA CONTAMINATED AREAS (VIREX)

All surfaces and materials within the affected area should be cleaned and thoroughly disinfected with Virex Disinfectant Solution, Disinfectant Spray or Disinfectant Towelettes, paying special attention to common use areas where MRSA can be easily spread through direct contact with others. Virex Disinfectant Solution can be applied to surfaces with saturated towels or sponges, as well as by spraying or misting with a mechanical device, such as trigger sprayer or pressure sprayer. Fogging should be used as an adjunct to disinfecting large areas or rooms (See VirexEPA-Approved Fogging Bulletin #301).

Pre-clean: Apply Virex Disinfectant Solution, Disinfectant Towelettes, or use Virex Enzyme Cleaner to remove any bacterial biofilm, soil, and debris from surfaces. Wipe with clean towel or sponge.

Disinfection: Completely wet pre-cleaned surfaces with Virex Disinfectant Solution or Disinfectant Towelettes and allow to remain for 10 minutes to kill the MRSA bacteria.

Areas for special attention to include:

- Lockers, carts, storage bins, walls, floors, countertops, partitions, door knobs, handles and light switches.
- Shower stalls, sinks, toilets, spas, hot tubs and pools.
- Weight machines, benches, barbells, stationary bicycles, wrestling mats, and other exercise equipment.
- Contact sports body armor, helmets, and contact sports balls. *Special attention should be placed on disinfecting the foam rubber padding of sports gear since these are skin-contact areas where the spread of the MRSA can occur.*
- Drinking fountains, vending machines, tables, desks, and chairs.
- Telephones, fax machines, copy machines, computers, and keyboards (Clean and disinfect with Virex Disinfectant Towelettes).

FOR POROUS SURFACES AND MATERIALS

Synthetic carpets, rugs, curtains and upholstery – To clean manually, spray Virex disinfectant onto carpet or fabric and wipe clean with cloth or sponge. For machine cleaning, apply product in accordance with machine manufacturer's



guidelines. Natural fabrics, rugs, curtains and upholstery – Clean in accordance with manufacturer’s guidelines.

Clothing, linens and other personal fabrics – Launder contaminated articles per garment label instructions.

NOTE: Laundry machines should be disinfected after washing contaminated materials by spraying the tub, agitator, splash seal and surfaces with Virex Disinfectant Solution, allow to remain for 10 minutes, and allow to air dry. Tanned leather materials – Clean materials by wiping the surfaces with a cloth lightly moistened with Virex Disinfectant Solution or Virex Disinfectant Towelettes, and allow to air dry. Suede and Nu-buck leather material – Clean according to manufacturer’s guidelines.

Concrete, cinder block, wood, plywood and oriented strand board (OSB) – Clean by applying Virex Disinfectant Solution directly to the surface and allow to remain for 10 minutes. Air dry.

HVAC SYSTEM

HVAC internal duct surfaces and components should be cleaned in accordance with industry guidelines. External ductwork surfaces, grills, grates and registers should be cleaned and disinfected with Virex.

DISINFECTION OF EQUIPMENT, TOOLS & PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

All tools, equipment and individual personal protective equipment used in the clean up of MRSA contaminated areas should be cleaned and disinfected using Virex prior to removal from the contaminated area.

DISPOSAL OF INFECTIOUS MATERIALS

Soiled cleaning materials, such as paper towels, cloths, sponges and mop heads, should be placed in trash bags, sealed with duct tape, and discarded in the regular trash. Virex products can be disposed of by pouring the liquid down the regular sewer drain and discarding the empty container in the regular trash. Follow local regulations.

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