



Disinfection Guidelines to Stop the Spread of Hepatitis A

What to Disinfect:

Surfaces that are frequently touched should be cleaned and then disinfected often. These include bathroom surfaces, kitchen and breakroom counters and appliances, light switch plates, door knobs, railings, recreational equipment, phones, tables, and chairs.

For bathrooms with heavy use, clean and disinfect multiple times per day.

How to Disinfect Hard Surfaces after Cleaning:

1. Use chlorine bleach in a well-ventilated area.
2. Wear disposable gloves and eye protection.
3. Mix and use the chlorine bleach solution within 20 minutes. Use 1 and 2/3 cups of bleach in 1 gallon of water (for 1 quarter of water use 3.3 oz. of bleach).
4. Allow 1 minute of contact time and then rinse with water. If surface is in a food preparation area, make sure to rinse with water afterward.
5. Other disinfectants may be approved for use if they are effective against hepatitis A. This must be clearly indicated on the label. Most quaternary ammonium disinfectants are not effective against hepatitis A. They may only be used if specifically stated on the label or specification sheets that they are effective against hepatitis A.

Steps to Clean Spills of Vomit or Feces:

1. Using disposable gloves, clean up visible debris using paper towels or other type of disposable cloths.
2. Discard soiled items and gloves in a plastic bag. Put on new gloves.
3. Thoroughly clean affected areas.
4. Disinfect area and objects surrounding the contamination with bleach as described above.
5. Transport bag to a trash container. Do not allow the bag to come into contact with clothing.
6. Always wash your hands after handling any contaminated material, trash, or waste.

These guidelines were adapted from information provided by the Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency. For more information, please call 831-755-4521.