

SANITATION

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What is acceptable procedure for storage of ice scoop holders? Do they have to be covered?

Ice scoop holders should be covered when not in use. A scoop guard or other mechanism that allows for drainage of water is needed to prevent the scoop from sitting in the water where bacterial growth could occur.

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Is it acceptable to use a community brush for cleaning toilet bowls and bedpans?

Yes.

Can containers of Clorox and water used for cleaning be stored in bathrooms?

No. Cleansing agents must be properly labeled and stored out of reach of residents.

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Can a container for the collection of soiled bibs accompany the food cart at pick up time?

Yes, covered containers of soiled bibs may be in the area of food trays at pick up time.

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Are paper towels required to be under collector containers (which are sitting on the floor) when emptying urinary catheters?

No. Appropriate infection control procedures during collection and disposal are required. This includes hand washing after the urine is discarded and the receptacle rinsed and put back in its original location.

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Should dirty items such as emesis basins, bed pans, shaving cups, etc, ever be cleaned in the facility's dishwasher where sanitized eating utensils are cleaned?

No.

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If electric razors are used by more than one resident, what procedures must be followed?

- a) The razor must be wiped between each resident use with a clean cloth moistened with 70 percent by volume isopropyl alcohol or other disinfectant approved by the Environmental Protection Agency for this purpose.
- b) Razors should not be shared between residents where there is a chance of transmission of blood borne diseases due to open face lesions or other similar conditions.

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What is the proper storage and safety of personal care items?

Resident care items (e.g., toothbrushes) should not be co-mingled with other resident care items. An individual's personal care items can be stored together as long as all items are clean. For example, a clean, appropriately covered toothbrush can be stored with other items. A toothbrush may also be stored in a separate bag.

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