

Respiratory Supplies Cleaning and Disinfecting

What's the difference between cleaning and disinfecting?

- Cleaning is washing and air drying to remove mostly visible debris.
- Disinfecting is killing and removing most germs from the item.

What can I Clean, Disinfect and Reuse?

Most supplies can be cleaned, and/or disinfected and reused.

- All masks and mouthpieces
- Adapters (blue or clear)
- Omni-flex adapters
- Water Traps
- Nebulizer kits and IPV hard plastic parts
- Permanent Corrugated Tubing
- Humidifier Chambers
- Spacer
- Whisper Swivel
- Oxygen Bottle
- Syringes

What requires specific cleaning methods?

- IPV circuit hoses, nebulizer tubing and oxygen tubing can be wiped down and flushed with alcohol solution (below)
- Shiley and Bivona Tracheostomy parts must be cleaned in accordance with manufacturers guidelines

What CANNOT be cleaned, disinfected and reused?

- Heated wire circuits and filters should be changed only when visibly soiled, DO NOT WASH

CLEANING: After treatment or when item visibly soiled

- Wash hands prior to cleaning respiratory equipment.
- Wash in HOT soapy water. It is acceptable to use liquid dishwashing soap.
- Rinse in HOT tap water.
- Place equipment on a clean paper towel and allow to air dry

DISINFECTING: At Least Weekly / As Needed

- Clean the parts following instructions above.
- Completely submerge parts in the chosen solution for recommended time (below)
- Rinse in HOT water, place on clean paper towel and air dry
- Discard the solution daily

Disinfecting Solutions:

Vinegar and Water Solution (1:3 ratio): Mix one-part vinegar and three parts water for 30 minutes.

Alcohol Solution: 70% isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol for 5 minutes, no mixture.

Bleach Solution (1:50 ratio): Mix 1 teaspoon of household bleach with one cup of water for 3 minutes.

Hydrogen Peroxide Solution: 3% hydrogen peroxide solution no mixture for 30 minutes.

MAKING STERILE WATER: (use with humidifiers)

- Bring tap water to a boil
- Once boiling continue for 5 minutes and then remove from heat
- Once cooled place in a cleaned container