

National Standards of Healthcare Cleanliness 2021

All Routine Cleaning Frequencies

	Element	FR1	FR2	FR3	FR4	FR5	FR6
1.	Bed pan (reusable), bed pan holder, patient wash bowls.	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling Full clean weekly even if not used	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling Full clean weekly even if not used
2.	Bed pan washer macerator.	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling Full clean weekly even if not used	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling Full clean weekly even if not used
3.	Other sluice equipment Including sluice sink and equipment holders.	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling
4.	Commodes.	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling Disassemble and full clean weekly	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling Disassemble and full clean weekly	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling Disassemble and full clean weekly	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling Disassemble and full clean weekly	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling Disassemble and full clean weekly even if not used	Full clean daily and after each use including touch points Remove any visible soiling Disassemble and full clean weekly even if not used
5.	Patients hoists.	Full clean daily and after each use to remove any visible soiling Full clean weekly even if not used	Full clean daily and after each use to remove any visible soiling Full clean weekly even if not used	Full clean daily and after each use to remove any visible soiling Full clean fortnightly even if not used	Full clean daily and after each use to remove any visible soiling Full clean fortnightly even if not used	N/A	N/A
6.	Weighing scales including neonatal, seated and standing scales.	Full clean daily and after each use to remove any visible soiling Full clean weekly even if not used	Full clean daily and after each use to remove any visible soiling Full clean weekly even if not used	Full clean daily and after each use to remove any visible soiling Full clean fortnightly even if not used	Full clean daily and after each use to remove any visible soiling Full clean fortnightly even if not used	Full clean daily and after each use to remove any visible soiling Full clean monthly even if not used	N/A

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7.	Medical equipment e.g. intravenous infusion pumps, drip stands and pulse oximeters, medical gas bottles and stands, walking aids. Refer to local protocol for medical equipment connected to and not connected to a patient.	Full clean weekly regardless of use including those in storage Check clean before use Clean after each use	Full clean weekly regardless of use including those in storage Check clean before use Clean after each use	Full clean weekly regardless of use including those in storage Check clean before use Clean after each use	Full clean weekly regardless of use including those in storage Check clean before use Clean after each use	Full clean weekly regardless of use including those in storage Check clean before use Clean after each use	Full clean weekly regardless of use including those in storage Check clean before use Clean after each use
8.	Wheelchairs (organisation owned). Refer to local protocol.	Full clean weekly After each use carry out touch point clean and remove any visible soiling	Full clean weekly After each use carry out touch point clean and remove any visible soiling	Full clean weekly After each use carry out touch point clean and remove any visible soiling	Full clean weekly After each use carry out touch point clean and remove any visible soiling	Full clean weekly After each use carry out touch point clean and remove any visible soiling	Full clean weekly After each use carry out touch point clean and remove any visible soiling
9.	Patient fans - with accessible blade. Refer to local risk assessment and protocol.	Frequency determined by local risk assessment and protocol	Frequency determined by local risk assessment and protocol	Frequency determined by local risk assessment and protocol	Frequency determined by local risk assessment and protocol	Frequency determined by local risk assessment and protocol	Frequency determined by local risk assessment and protocol
10.	Patient TV and Bedside Entertainment Systems including head pieces.	Full clean after discharge 1 check clean daily Additionally, for multi-user equipment clean touch points daily e.g. remote controls	Full clean after discharge 1 check clean daily Additionally, for multi-user equipment clean touch points daily e.g. remote controls	Full clean after discharge 1 check clean daily Additionally, for multi-user equipment clean touch points daily e.g. remote controls	Full clean after discharge 1 check clean daily Additionally, for multi-user equipment clean touch points daily e.g. remote controls	Full clean after discharge 1 check clean daily Additionally, for multi-user equipment clean touch points daily e.g. remote controls	Full clean after discharge 1 check clean daily Additionally, for multi-user equipment clean touch points daily e.g. remote controls
11.	Notes and drugs trolleys and patient clipboards.	Full clean weekly and following discharge Clean touch points daily	Full clean weekly and following discharge Clean touch points daily	Full clean fortnightly and following discharge Clean touch points daily	Full clean fortnightly and following discharge Clean touch points daily	Full clean fortnightly and following discharge Clean touch points daily	Full clean fortnightly and following discharge Clean touch points daily
12.	All chairs and couches (soft furniture).	Full clean daily 1 check clean daily of touch points (chair arms and seat)	Full clean daily including touch points (chair arms and seat)	Full clean daily including touch points (chair arms and seat)	Full clean weekly	Full clean monthly	Full clean monthly

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13.	Patient beds - frame, wheels, castors, head, foot, cot sides, nurse call and control panels, including carers beds in the clinical area. Non patient beds including on-call beds clean as per local protocol.	Full clean frame top daily including touch points (bed rails and nurse call button) Full clean frame bottom weekly Full clean on patient discharge	Full clean frame top daily including touch points (bed rails and nurse call button) Full clean frame bottom weekly Full clean on patient discharge	Full clean frame top weekly including touch points (bed rails and nurse call button) Full clean frame bottom weekly Full clean on patient discharge	Full clean frame top weekly including touch points (bed rails and nurse call button) Full clean frame bottom weekly Full clean on patient discharge	Full clean frame top fortnightly including touch points (bed rails and nurse call button) Full clean on patient discharge	Full clean frame top monthly including touch points (bed rails and nurse call button) Full clean on patient discharge
14.	Patient bed and trolley mattresses. Refer to Local protocol for inspection of mattress integrity and ingress.	Clean in line with local protocol Full clean on patient discharge	Clean in line with local protocol Full clean on patient discharge	Clean in line with local protocol Full clean on patient discharge	Clean in line with local protocol Full clean on patient discharge	Clean in line with local protocol Full clean on patient discharge	Clean in line with local protocol Full clean on patient discharge
15.	Patient trolleys and treatment couches. Trolleys with x-ray storage and oxygen Cylinders clean according to local protocol.	Full clean daily Full clean between patient use	Check clean daily Full clean between patient use	Check clean weekly Full clean between patient use	Check clean weekly Full clean between patient use	Check clean weekly Full clean between patient use	Check clean weekly Full clean between patient use
16.	Patient toys (premises owned). Refer to local protocol and risk assessment.	Recommended cleaning weekly using an appropriate cleaning solution and following local protocol	Recommended cleaning weekly using an appropriate cleaning solution and following local protocol	Recommended cleaning weekly using an appropriate cleaning solution and following local protocol	Recommended cleaning weekly using an appropriate cleaning solution and following local protocol	Recommended cleaning weekly using an appropriate cleaning solution and following local protocol	Recommended cleaning weekly using an appropriate cleaning solution and following local protocol
17.	Switches, sockets and Data points, trunking, handrails and wall fixtures.	Full clean daily including touch points (light switched/pulls, handrails, lift buttons/plates and hand dryer buttons) 1 check clean daily	Full clean daily including touch points (light switched/pulls, handrails, lift buttons/plates and hand dryer buttons)	Full clean twice weekly and daily check clean of touch points (light switched/pulls, handrails, lift buttons/plates and hand dryer buttons)	Full clean weekly including touch points (light switched/pulls, handrails, lift buttons/plates and hand dryer buttons)	Full clean monthly and weekly check clean of touch points weekly (light switched/pulls, handrails, lift buttons/plates and hand dryer buttons)	Full clean monthly and weekly check clean of touch points weekly (light switched/pulls, handrails, lift buttons/plates and hand dryer buttons)

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18.	Walls - accessible up to 2 metres.	Full clean annually 1 check clean daily (leading to a clean of soiled areas only)	Full clean annually 1 check clean daily (leading to a clean of soiled areas only)	Full clean annually 1 check clean daily (leading to a clean of soiled areas only)	Full clean annually 1 check clean daily (leading to a clean of soiled areas only)	Full clean annually 1 check bi-monthly (leading to a clean of soiled areas only)	Full clean annually 1 check 6 monthly (leading to a clean of soiled areas only)
19.	Ceilings and walls not accessible above 2 metres and ceiling lights.	Full clean annually Check clean as required (leading to a clean of soiled areas only)	Full clean annually	Full clean annually	Full clean every 2 years	Full clean every 3 years (patient areas only)	Full clean every 3 years (patient areas only)
20.	Floor - hard including skirtings.	Full clean daily 2 check cleans daily	Full clean daily 1 check cleans daily	Full clean daily	Full clean daily	Full clean weekly	Full clean fortnightly
21.	Floor - soft including skirtings.	Full clean daily 2 check cleans Carpet shampooing should be carried out at a frequency to maintain the standard	Full clean daily 1 check cleans Carpet shampooing should be carried out at a frequency to maintain the standard	Full clean daily Carpet shampooing should be carried out at a frequency to maintain the standard	Full clean daily Carpet shampooing should be carried out at a frequency to maintain the standard	Full clean fortnightly Carpet shampooing should be carried out at a frequency to maintain the standard	Full clean monthly Carpet shampooing should be carried out at a frequency to maintain the standard
22.	All doors including ventilation grilles.	Full clean daily, including handles and touch points	Full clean daily, including handles and touch points	Full clean daily, including handles and touch points	Full clean weekly	Full clean monthly	Full clean monthly
23.	All windows including frames where accessible.	Full clean every 6 months	Full clean every 6 months	Full clean every 6 months	Full clean every 6 months	Full clean every 6 months	Full clean every 6 months
24.	All internal glazing including partitions (excluding mirrors and windows).	Full clean daily	Full clean weekly	Full clean weekly	Full clean weekly	Check clean monthly	Check clean bi-monthly
25.	Mirrors.	Full clean daily 1 check clean daily	Full clean daily	Full clean daily	Full clean daily	Full clean daily in sanitary areas all other areas weekly	Full clean daily in sanitary areas all other areas weekly
26.	Dispenser cleaning – hand wash, hand sanitisers, paper towel holders, toilet roll holders, all alcohol dispensers and hand dryers, including glove and apron dispensers.	Full clean external surfaces daily Full clean internally on replenishment, a minimum of weekly	Full clean external surfaces daily Full clean internally on replenishment, a minimum of weekly	Full clean external surfaces daily Full clean internally on replenishment, a minimum of weekly	Full clean external surfaces daily Full clean internally on replenishment, a minimum of weekly	Full clean external surfaces daily Full clean internally on replenishment, a minimum of weekly	Full clean external surfaces daily Full clean internally on replenishment, a minimum of weekly

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	Element	FR1	FR2	FR3	FR4	FR5	FR6
	Replenish as required.						
27.	All elements of showers.	Full clean daily including touch points (tap/shower handles) 1 check clean daily including touch points Descale as local protocol	Full clean daily including touch points (tap/shower handles) 1 check clean daily including touch points Descale as local protocol	Full clean daily including touch points (tap/shower handles) Descale as local protocol	Full clean daily including touch points (tap/shower handles) Descale as local protocol	Full clean daily including touch points (tap/shower handles) Descale as local protocol	Full clean weekly including touch points (tap/shower handles) Descale as local protocol
28.	Toilets, bidets, urinals and toilet brushes.	Full clean daily including touch points (flush handles) 2 check cleans daily including touch points (flush handles) Descale as local protocol	Full clean daily including touch points (flush handles) 1 check cleans daily including touch points (flush handles) Descale as local protocol	Full clean daily including touch points (flush handles) 1 check cleans daily including touch points (flush handles) Descale as local protocol	Full clean daily including touch points (flush handles) Descale as local protocol	Full clean daily including touch points (flush handles) Descale as local protocol	Full clean daily including touch points (flush handles) Descale as local protocol
29.	Sinks and taps.	Full clean daily including touch points (tap handles) 2 check cleans daily including touch points (tap handles) Descale as local protocol	Full clean daily including touch points (tap handles) 1 check cleans daily including touch points (tap handles) Descale as local protocol	Full clean daily including touch points (tap handles) 1 check cleans daily including touch points (tap handles) Descale as local protocol	Full clean daily including touch points (tap handles) Descale as local protocol	Full clean daily including touch points (tap handles) Descale as local protocol	Full clean daily including touch points (tap handles) Descale as local protocol
30.	Baths and taps.	Full clean daily including touch points (tap handles) 1 check cleans daily Between patients Descale as local protocol	Full clean daily including touch points (tap handles) Between patients Descale as local protocol	Full clean daily including touch points (tap handles) Between patients Descale as local protocol	Full clean daily including touch points (tap handles) Between patients Descale as local protocol	Full clean daily including touch points (tap handles) Between patients Descale as local protocol	Full clean weekly including touch points (tap handles) Between patients Descale as local protocol
31.	Radiators including cover.	Full clean daily external only Inside cover – full clean as local protocol	Full clean weekly external only Inside cover – full clean as local protocol	Full clean weekly external only Inside cover – full clean as local protocol	Full clean fortnightly external only Inside cover – full clean as local protocol	Full clean monthly external only Inside cover – full clean as local protocol	Full clean quarterly external only Inside cover – full clean as local protocol
32.	Low surfaces - low level pipes and low level trunking.	Full clean daily	Full clean weekly 1 check clean daily	Full clean weekly	Full clean fortnightly 1 check clean weekly	Full clean monthly	Full clean 6 monthly

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33.	Middle surfaces – window sills, non-patient furniture, tables, desks, shelves and ledges, work surfaces and cupboards exteriors. This does not include items covered by other elements in this list, i.e. switches & sockets.	Full clean daily including touch points Patient dining tables full clean after each meal service	Full clean weekly including touch points Patient dining tables full clean after each meal service	Full clean weekly including touch points Patient dining tables full clean after each meal service	Full clean fortnightly including touch points Patient dining tables full clean after each meal service	Full clean monthly including touch points Patient dining tables full clean after each meal service	Full clean bi-monthly including touch points Patient dining tables full clean after each meal service
34.	High surfaces Including curtain rails, staff locker tops that are accessible, and high surfaces around patient bed areas.	Full clean daily	Full clean weekly	Full clean weekly	Full clean fortnightly	Full clean monthly	Full clean monthly
35.	Bedside lockers.	Full exterior clean daily including touch points (locker handles) 1 check clean daily Full exterior and interior clean on discharge	Full exterior clean daily including touch points (locker handles) 1 check clean daily Full exterior and interior clean on discharge	Full exterior clean weekly including touch points (locker handles) Full exterior and interior clean on discharge	Full exterior clean weekly including touch points (locker handles) Full exterior and interior clean on discharge	Full exterior and interior clean on discharge	Full exterior and interior clean on discharge
36.	Over bed tables and dining tables.	Full clean daily including touch points Wipe top after each meal Full clean weekly wheels/castors Full clean on patient discharge	Full clean daily including touch points Wipe top after each meal Full clean weekly wheels/castors Full clean on patient discharge	Full clean weekly including touch points Wipe top after each meal Full clean weekly wheels/castors Full clean on patient discharge	Full clean weekly including touch points Wipe top after each meal Full clean weekly wheels/castors Full clean on patient discharge	Full clean monthly including touch points wheels/castors Wipe top after each meal	Full clean monthly including touch points wheels/castors Wipe top after each meal
37.	All waste receptacles (does not include euro/wheelie bin).	Full clean daily of external surfaces 1 check clean daily	Full clean daily of external surfaces 1 check clean daily	Full clean daily of external surfaces 1 check clean daily	Full clean weekly of external surfaces 1 check clean daily	Full clean weekly of external surfaces 1 check clean daily	Full clean monthly of external surfaces 1 check clean daily

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38.	Linen and general purpose trolleys.	Full clean weekly to include wheels Touch points daily	Full clean weekly to include wheels	Full clean weekly to include wheels	Full clean weekly to include wheels	Full clean monthly to include wheels	Full clean monthly to include wheels
39.	Replenishment of consumables.	Check and replenish 3x daily	Check and replenish 3x daily	Check and replenish 3x daily	Check and replenish daily	Check and replenish daily	Check and replenish daily
40.	Ventilation grilles extracts and inlets.	Full clean weekly Visual check daily Internal cleaning as local protocol	Full clean weekly Visual check daily Internal cleaning as local protocol	Full clean monthly Visual check weekly Internal cleaning as local protocol	Full clean monthly Visual check weekly Internal cleaning as local protocol	Full clean 6 monthly Visual check quarterly Internal cleaning as local protocol	Full clean 6 monthly Visual check quarterly Internal cleaning as local protocol
41.	Lighting including overhead, bedside, wall mounted examination light both fixed and portable.	Full clean daily Patient bedside lights to be cleaned on discharge	Full clean daily Patient bedside lights to be cleaned on discharge	Full clean daily Patient bedside lights to be cleaned on discharge	Full clean weekly	Full clean monthly	Full clean monthly
42.	Electrical items in multi-use areas – Specifically computers and phones for example at nurses' station, computers on wheels (COWs) and workstations on wheels (WOWs), computer casing only.	Full clean daily of touch points Weekly clean of COWs and WOWs	Full clean daily of touch points Weekly clean of COWs and WOWs	Full clean weekly of touch points monthly clean of COWs and WOWs	Full clean weekly of touch points monthly clean of COWs and WOWs	Full clean fortnightly of touch points	Full clean monthly of touch points
43.	Curtains and blinds (disposable and fabric).	As per local curtain changing programme or change/clean when visibly soiled 6-monthly as a minimum	As per local curtain changing programme or change/clean when visibly soiled 6-monthly as a minimum	As per local curtain changing programme or change/clean when visibly soiled Annually as a minimum	As per local curtain changing programme or change/clean when visibly soiled 2 yearly as a minimum	As per local curtain changing programme or change/clean when visibly soiled 2 yearly as a minimum	As per local curtain changing programme or change/clean when visibly soiled 2 yearly as a minimum
44.	Dishwashers. Descale as per local protocol.	Full clean weekly Check clean after each use Periodic descale	Full clean weekly Periodic descale	Full clean weekly Periodic descale	Full clean weekly Periodic descale	Full clean monthly Periodic descale	Full clean monthly Periodic descale
45.	Fridges and freezers (patient and staff areas).	Full clean weekly 1 check clean daily including touch points (handles)	Full clean weekly 1 check clean daily including touch points (handles)	Full clean weekly 1 check clean daily including touch points (handles)	Full clean fortnightly 1 check clean weekly including touch points (handles)	Full clean monthly 1 check clean weekly including touch points (handles)	Full clean bi-monthly 1 check clean weekly including touch points (handles)

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		Defrost according to manufacturer's instructions	Defrost according to manufacturer's instructions	Defrost according to manufacturer's instructions	Defrost according to manufacturer's instructions	Defrost according to manufacturer's instructions	Defrost according to manufacturer's instructions
46.	Fridges and freezers clinical (including but not limited to bloods fridges, medicine fridges, ice freezers for physio departments)	Full clean weekly 1 check clean daily including touch points (handles) Defrost according to manufacturer's instructions	Full clean weekly 1 check clean daily including touch points (handles) Defrost according to manufacturer's instructions	Full clean weekly 1 check clean daily including touch points (handles) Defrost according to manufacturer's instructions	Full clean fortnightly 1 check clean weekly including touch points (handles) Defrost according to manufacturer's instructions	Full clean monthly 1 check clean weekly including touch points (handles) Defrost according to manufacturer's instructions	Full clean monthly 1 check clean weekly including touch points (handles) Defrost according to manufacturer's instructions
47.	Ice machines, hot Water boiler and cold-water machines including drip trays. Follow local Infection Prevention and Control guidelines. Follow local protocol for descaling.	Full clean weekly 1 check clean daily of external areas including drip trays and touch points (buttons and levers) Periodic descale Defrost according to manufacturer's instructions	Full clean weekly 1 check clean daily of external areas including drip trays and touch points (buttons and levers) Periodic descale Defrost according to manufacturer's instructions	Full clean weekly 1 check clean daily of external areas including drip trays and touch points (buttons and levers) Periodic descale Defrost according to manufacturer's instructions	Full clean fortnightly 1 check clean daily of external areas including drip trays and touch points (buttons and levers) Periodic descale Defrost according to manufacturer's instructions	Full clean monthly 1 check clean weekly of external areas including drip trays and touch points (buttons and levers) Periodic descale Defrost according to manufacturer's instructions	Full clean monthly 1 check clean weekly of external areas including drip trays and touch points (buttons and levers) Periodic descale Defrost according to manufacturer's instructions
48.	Kitchen cupboards.	Full clean monthly to include internal 1 check clean daily of external surfaces	Full clean monthly to include internal 1 check clean daily of external surfaces	Full clean monthly to include internal 1 check clean daily of external surfaces	Full clean bi-monthly to include internal 1 check clean daily of external surfaces	Full clean quarterly to include internal 1 check clean weekly of touch points (handles)	Full clean 6 monthly to include internal 1 check clean weekly of touch points (handles)
49.	Microwaves and Traditional cookers/ovens.	Full clean daily including touch points (handles and buttons) Check clean following mealtime Cooker/oven full clean as local protocol	Full clean weekly 1 check clean daily including touch points (handles and buttons) Check clean following mealtime Cooker/oven full clean as local protocol	Full clean weekly 1 check clean daily including touch points (handles and buttons) Check clean following mealtime Cooker/oven full clean as local protocol	Full clean weekly including touch points (handles and buttons) Check clean following each mealtime Cooker/oven full clean as local protocol	Full clean fortnightly touch points (handles and buttons) Check clean following each mealtime Cooker/oven full clean as local protocol	Full clean monthly touch points (handles and buttons) Check clean following each mealtime Cooker/oven full clean as local protocol
50.	All cleaning equipment including cleaning trolley.	Full clean after each use	Full clean after each use	Full clean after each use	Full clean after each use	Full clean after each use	Full clean after each use