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GUIDELINE FOR THE DECONTAMINATION OF NNTP TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT.

Responsibilities:

The NNTP transport incubator, trolley and all associated equipment must be appropriately decontaminated after each use. It is the responsibility of NNTP team members to ensure that all NNTP equipment is appropriately decontaminated after use as per this guideline.

While in all three NNTP service hospitals, the deep cleaning procedure is routinely performed by the Health Care Assistants, it is the responsibility of the NNTP teams to ensure that it has been completed prior to their respective hospital's next week on NNTP service/ or following any transport with an infection risk .

Routine Cleaning Process.

This process is to be followed under routine circumstances when there are no known outbreaks of infection in any of the units involved in transfer. Standard Infection Control Precautions must be adhered to at all times.

After each transfer the following should be undertaken:

1. All linen should be stripped and placed directly into an appropriately colour coded bag in line with local and national policy and sent for laundering.
2. Single patient use (disposable items) should be removed and disposed of in a clinical waste bag.
3. Any reusable medical devices that require high level disinfection should be returned to the relevant Hospital's Central Sterile Services Department (CSSD) in line with local hospital policy.
4. If the suction has been used, the collection container and all tubing should be disposed of in a clinical waste bag and replaced once the incubator has been decontaminated.
5. The incubator and all surrounding equipment should then be cleaned. If physically clean and no known/suspected infection, clean thoroughly with a solution of ph neutral detergent and water or use a disposable detergent wipe (e.g. Clinell detergent wipes) then wipe dry with clean paper towel. Any single patient use items and items sent for CSSD reprocessing should be replaced ready for the next transport.

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Deep Cleaning Process.

Routine deep cleaning is required following each hospital's week of NNTP service (ie. every third week) or post transfer of a neonate with a known or suspected infection / neonate colonised with a multi drug resistant organism / or during an outbreak of infection.

1. Steps 1-5 on page 1 must be carried out in addition to the deep clean process as described below.
2. The procedure should be carried out in a well ventilated area.
3. Before beginning the process, the incubator must be switched off to allow the fan to stop and the heating fans to cool down sufficiently to allow cleaning.
4. Remove the incubator hood by unclipping the four black clips on the front and rear of the hood. Take care when lifting off the hood as the inner Perspex wall may be dislodged as you do this.
5. The inner wall can now be removed.
6. The sliding mattress tray can then be removed via the head end of the incubator. In order to remove this tray completely there is a stainless steel plate that must be depressed in order to release the tray. Once this is fully depressed the tray slides out of the incubator easily. Please perform a visible check of the mattress ensuring it is intact. If any damages are identified, please replace with a new mattress.
7. Ensuring the fan is stationary on the incubator, clean all components of the incubator and surrounding medical equipment including frame of the transport trolley :
 - First clean all surfaces with a solution of ph neutral detergent and warm water
 - Thoroughly rinse the ph neutral detergent solution with sterile/filtered water
 - Disinfect all surfaces with freshly made chlorine releasing solution (equal to 1000ppm in cold water)
 - Leave it in contact for 2 minutes.
 - Thoroughly remove the chlorine releasing solution with sterile/filtered water
 - Dry thoroughly with paper towels.
8. Once each section has been cleaned, disinfected and dried, reassemble the incubator being careful not to crack the Perspex hoods or trap anything under the seals.
9. Ensure the incubator and surrounding equipment is switched back on and is working correctly.
10. The NNTP Equipment deep cleaning log should then be completed with the date, person who cleaned and reason for cleaning , i.e. a routine deep clean or following a transfer of an infected baby. The log should be checked and counter signed by the NNTP nurse prior to the next NNTP service shift.