

Transportation and Cleaning and Disinfecting Transport Vehicles

PPE & Social Distancing

- Surgical masks should be worn when transporting individuals to and from activities.
- The number of individuals in transport vehicles should be limited to ensure that individuals and team members maintain distance from one another. This may require multiple trips.
- When transporting an individual who is COVID-positive or suspected of having COVID infection, the individual (if possible) should wear a mask (this is known as source control). The driver and any other persons should wear an N95 mask and drive with the windows slightly open (weather permitting).
- Ensure each vehicle has a small cleaning kit (gloves, extra surgical mask, disinfecting spray or wipes, paper towels) in the event sprays or splashes of body fluids occurs.
- See also the Isolation Procedure.

Cleaning and Disinfecting Vehicles

- Commonly touched surfaces inside and outside the vehicle are to be cleaned and disinfected at the beginning and end of each shift and between transports, if transporting different individuals
- Wear a surgical mask and reusable or disposable gloves when cleaning and disinfecting surfaces. Disposable gloves should be discarded after each cleaning. Reusable gloves should be dedicated for cleaning and disinfection of surfaces and should not be used for other purposes.
- Clean with detergent or soap and water if the surfaces are visibly dirty, prior to disinfecting, and disinfect hard non-porous surfaces within the interior of the vehicle, such as hard seats, arm rests, door handles (inside and out), seat belt buckles, wheelchair ties, light and air controls, doors and windows, and grab handles, etc.
- For disinfection, alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol and most common EPA-registered household disinfectants should be effective.
- Cleaning solutions like Oxivir (available through Medline) are effective at disinfecting surfaces while being safe to use near people. Medline has a list of approved cleaning solutions. Always follow manufacturer's instructions for application and proper ventilation. Check to ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Never mix household cleaning solutions together.
- For soft (porous) surfaces such as carpeted floors and seats, remove visible contamination if present and clean with appropriate cleaners indicated for use on these surfaces.
- Doors should remain open when cleaning the vehicle.
- Wash hands immediately after removal of gloves with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, if soap and water are not available.