

SEATING MATTERS CLEANING PROCESS

Infection prevention is vitally important in hospital and healthcare environments. Bacteria and germs often contribute to the development and spread of infections. They can be potentially very harmful so this is important to control and prevent, especially in areas such as hospitals, where patients may be vulnerable and susceptible to infection.

Steps can be taken to control and prevent infections in a variety of settings, from the home to the hospital. In hospitals, members of staff are highly trained in the prevention of cross-infection and work to strict regulations.

At Seating Matters we take infection control very seriously. Our chairs have been specifically designed to decrease entrapment areas where bacteria and germs can survive.

Below are some of the steps we have taken to prevent the spread of infections:

1. All chairs are upholstered in a hard-wearing, enduring contract vinyl proven to counteract C.difficile, E.coli as well as MRSA and the vast majority of bacteria.
2. The materials can all be cleaned with hospital-grade cleaning agents, without causing damage to the fabrics. Please refer to the instructions on the specific cleaning solution you intend to use for best results.
3. The arms on Phoenix™, Sorrento™, are removable so that the seat and lower back area can be wiped clean.
4. The seat cushion is removable for ease of cleaning.
5. The seat cushion is attached to the base of the chair with a non-slip, wipeable material therefore having no material such as Velcro which can hold dirt and bacteria.
6. All electric components are part of a sealed unit which can be wiped clean.
7. The metal frames of the chairs have a powder coated finish which is electro-statically applied then cured under heat to allow it to form a “skin”. The powder is a thermoset polymer and is used to create a hard finish that is tougher than conventional paint, therefore protecting the frame from being exposed to outside conditions and thus preventing rusting.
8. All chairs have modular parts which means the chair can be completely dismantled leaving no areas unexposed for cleaning.
9. The complete chair frame is designed with flat panels throughout which can be easily wiped clean.

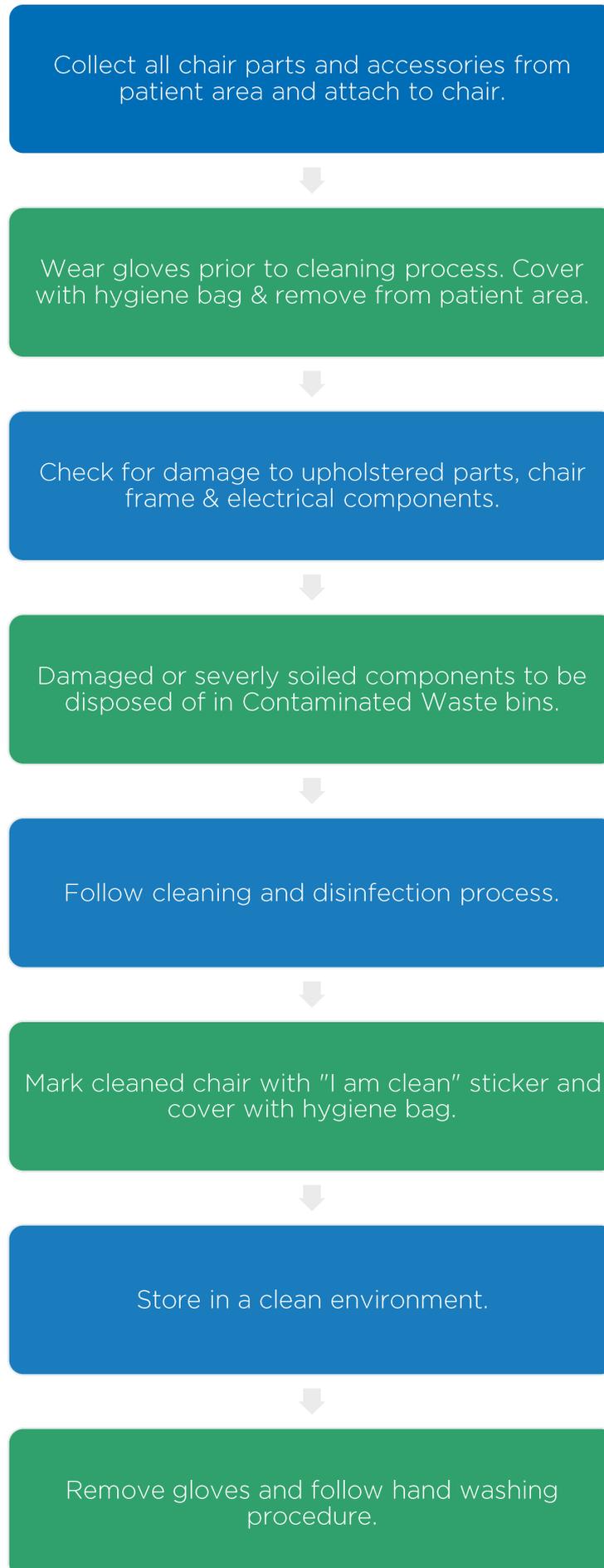
STEP BY STEP CLEANING & DISINFECTION PROCESSES

Cleaning:

- All surfaces to be wiped down with cleaning wipes or a disposable soft cloth moistened with a mild detergent diluted in warm water (40°C).
- The wipe/cloth should be changed during the cleaning process if it becomes soiled.
- If using a wipe allow to air dry naturally.
- If using detergent rinse with cold clean water and a clean cloth then dry.

Disinfection:

- If equipment has come into contact with blood or bodily fluids, complete cleaning is required as above.
- Wipe surfaces down with 0.1% Chlorine solution (1,000ppm) using disposable cloths.
- It is important to wait 5 minutes to allow the disinfectant sufficient contact time.
- After 5 minutes has elapsed wipe down with a clean cloth moistened with water.
- Dry off with a paper towel – always ensure the cleaned surfaces are allowed to fully dry before putting back into use or into a plastic bag otherwise there is an increased risk of damage to the mattress/cushion.



CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE OF FABRICS

- Vinyl: (Arms and outside back) Vinyl is resistant to urine, most household stains, mild acids/alkalis, drinks and beverages as they are not absorbed and can be wiped off without any problem or lasting damage. Some difficult substances such as lipstick, ball point pen ink and food colourings should be cleaned off immediately to avoid permanent staining.
- Cleaning: To ensure proper cleaning and longevity of the fabrics, the chairs should be cleaned with warm soapy water followed by clean water rinse to help retain the attractive appearance and durability. Heavy, ingrained soiling may be removed by scrubbing with a soft brush. Strong detergents, solvent cleaners, polishes or patent chemical cleaners should not be used as they are unnecessary and may cause embrittlement and cracking of the material.

Additional Care: Special attention should be given to the head rest and arm rest areas, as build-up of body oils in these areas will gradually cause the vinyl to harden.

Dartex Multi Stretch Fabric (Patient Contact Surface):

Properties: This fabric is waterproof, has the ability to be wiped clean and has biostatic (anti-mycotic) coatings to provide an impenetrable barrier to virus and bacteria. Superficial dirt may be removed by wiping with a soft cloth moistened with water containing a neutral detergent. More persistent contamination may be treated by wiping with alcohols or turpentine substitute, followed by hot water and detergent. Routine cleaning and disinfection may be carried out on the coating with hand hot water and a neutral detergent or with a sodium hypochlorite solution (0.1% or 1000 parts per million available chlorine). The material is compatible with the 10,000ppm available chlorine in solution required for the decontamination of blood spills. Excess solution must be removed and the surface thoroughly rinsed and dried prior to reuse or storage. Proprietary disinfectants may be used provided manufacturer's instructions are followed. All cleaning agents, and disinfectants, must be thoroughly rinsed off and the item dried before storage.

Failure to do this may result in damage to the polyurethane coating, react with the chair frame, or negate the biocompatibility results of the fabric. It is essential that articles be thoroughly dried after all cleaning procedures and before storage.

End of Life (Disposal):

Please contact Seating Matters for disposal of your chair at the end of its lifespan. Batteries may only be disposed of according to your local legal guidelines.

Safety:

The Phoenix™ is CE marked to show conformance to the Medical Devices Directive 93/42/EEC and conforms to BS ISO 7176 at medium hazard.

GENERAL CLEANING AND CHECKING

All chairs should be checked and cleaned and or disinfected as appropriate following all patient discharges. Chair checking must take place prior to a clinical clean.

Integrity of Upholstered Fabrics:

Care must be taken not to damage upholstered fabric in particular when patient mechanical transfer devices such as hoists and slings and bridging boards are used or when chairs are being transported. Avoid any protruding or sharp objects having contact with the upholstered fabric.

Control Box, Chargers, Motors and Handsets:

- The electrical components are not rated waterproof and only provide protection from light moisture only.
- Do not immerse or soak the control unit due to the risk of electric shock.
- Check for external damage - if damaged, take the electrical components out of use.
- The electrical components are to be cleaned by starting with the cleanest parts of it and systemically moving to the dirtiest parts.
- Extra care should be taken around areas where excess dirt or dust may gather.

Chair Storage:

If a chair needs to be stored, prior to storing the chair it must be:

- Checked for any damage.
- Cleaned in accordance with the guidelines below.
- Have a dated and signed "I am clean" sticker placed on the device.
- Stored in a clean environment.

Cleaning and Disinfection:

Patients suspected or confirmed of having an infection must have the chair cleaned as part of the clinical clean process.

- Do not use solvents, neat bleach, phenolic based cleaning solutions or abrasive products to clean mattresses, control units, cushions and pillows.
- Wear disposable apron, gloves and eye/face protection if risk of splashing.