

Appendix A: Cleaning and Disinfection Decision Chart for Non-critical Equipment

The following chart relates to **non-critical patient care equipment** only, i.e., equipment that comes into contact with intact skin. For semi-critical and critical equipment that requires high level disinfection or sterilization, see the Ministry of Health and Long-term Care's *Best Practices for Cleaning, Disinfection and Sterilization in All Health Care Settings*.

Level of Cleaning and Disinfection Classification of Equipment/Device	Classification of Equipment/Device	Effective Products
<u>Cleaning</u> Physical removal of soil, dust or foreign material. Chemical, thermal or mechanical aids may be used. Cleaning usually involves soap and water, detergents or enzymatic cleaners. Thorough cleaning is required before disinfection or sterilization may take place.	All reusable equipment/devices	Concentration and contact time are dependent on manufacturer's instructions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quaternary ammonium compounds (QUATs)• Enzymatic cleaners• Soap and water• Detergents• 0.5% Hydrogen peroxide enhanced action formulation (HP-EAF)
<u>Low-Level Disinfection</u> Level of disinfection required when processing noncritical equipment/devices or some environmental surfaces. Low-level disinfectants kill most vegetative bacteria and some fungi as well as enveloped (lipid) viruses. Low-level disinfectants do not kill mycobacteria or bacterial spores.	Non-critical equipment/devices	Concentration and contact time are dependent on manufacturer's instructions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3% Hydrogen peroxide (30 minutes)• 70-95% Alcohol (10 minutes)• Sodium hypochlorite (bleach) (1000 ppm)• 0.5% Hydrogen peroxide enhanced action formulation (HP-EAF) (5 minutes)• Quaternary ammonium compounds (QUATs)• Iodophors• Phenolics (should not be used in nurseries or equipment that comes into contact with infants such as scales)