

ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

Ansari Nagar, New Delhi

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Sub: **HICC Guidelines on infection control aspects of respiratory therapy equipment/devices**

Please find below the guidelines for infection control aspects of respiratory therapy equipment/ devices as prepared by the Core Committee, HICC for improving quality of patient care services.

Mechanical ventilator	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Surface disinfection of panels, trolleys and support arm to be performed once a day with alcohol-based disinfectant. Disposable circuit tubings to be used; these should not be changed routinely unless these are soiled.2. For humidification, preferably use a HME (HME should not be used along with a heated humidifier).3. HME to be changed daily.4. For heated humidifier, use only sterile water. In reusable humidifier chambers, once the water level falls below the lower mark, one should empty the humidifier and refill with sterile water; one should not top up.5. Closed suction to be preferably used and changed at least once daily.6. For any further disinfection, follow the manufacturer recommendations.
High flow nasal cannula (HFNC)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Surface disinfection of the unit once a day with alcohol-based disinfectant.2. Sterile water to be used in humidifier bottles.3. Terminal disinfection of the HFNC equipment to be done as recommended by the manufacturer [In AIRVO HFNC- thermal disinfection is recommended by the manufacturer].
Oxygen concentrators	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Surface disinfection of the unit once a day with alcohol-based disinfectant2. In humidifier bottle, use sterile water. Once the water level falls below the lower mark, one should empty the humidifier and refill with sterile water; one should not top up.
NIPPV/NIV	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Surface disinfection of the unit once a day with alcohol-based disinfectant.2. HME filter may be attached to non-vented mask.

Oxygen Humidifier	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Oxygen humidifier to be disinfected daily. 2. In humidifier bottle, use sterile water. Once the water level falls below the lower mark, one should empty the humidifier bottle and refill with sterile water; one should not top up.
Suction bottles	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The bottles should be periodically emptied. 2. Every 6 hours, bottles to be cleaned with soap and warm water and dried. 3. For disinfection of the tubing's, after every suction, freshly prepared 1% NaOCl solution kept ready in appropriate container or bottles, should be suctioned through the tubings.
Nebulizer chamber	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A single nebulizer chamber should be used for a single patient only. 2. After use, nebulizer should be emptied and dried.
Ultrasonic nebulizer (e.g., ATOM)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Surface disinfection of the unit once a day with alcohol-based disinfectant 2. Preferably a fresh circuit should be used for each patient. 3. The medication chamber should be emptied and dried after every use. 4. The water reservoir should be filled with sterile water and changed every day.

Reusable circuits, NIV masks should be disinfected as per guidelines: should be cleaned in running water to remove any organic material and then immersed properly in glutaraldehyde disinfectant solution for atleast 30 min. Thereafter, should be rinsed, preferably with sterile water and dried. After drying to be packed in clean container/ packets.


Chairperson, HICC

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Anam.

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Ms Ankita

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