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## Covid-19 Handling Suspected Cases



The following are the steps that will be taken when cleaning / disinfecting any rooms where there has been a person with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19.

- Keep the door to the room closed for at least one hour before cleaning. Do not use the room until the room has been thoroughly cleaned and disinfected and all surfaces are dry.
- The person assigned to clean the area should avoid touching their face while they are cleaning and should wear household or disposable single use non-sterile nitrile gloves and a disposable plastic apron
- Clean the environment and the furniture using disposable cleaning cloths and a household detergent followed or combined with Chlorine based product such as sodium hypochlorite often referred to as household bleach). Chlorine based products are available in different formats including wipes.
- Pay special attention to frequently touched flat surfaces, the backs of chairs, couches, door handles and any surfaces or items that are visibly soiled with body fluids.
- Place all waste that has been in contact with the person, including used tissues, and masks if used, in a plastic rubbish bag and tie when full – do not over fill the bag.
- Remove your apron and gloves and discard into the waste bag and clean your hands. Place the plastic bag into a second bin bag and tie it, then clean your hands.
- Once the room has been cleaned and disinfected and all surfaces are dry, the room can be put back into use.
- There is no need to clean carpets (if present) unless there has been a spillage.

The above steps apply where any room occupied only by the person with the suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19. If a communal area needs to be cleaned for these purposes, then the following points are also specifically noted.

- Clean the area with household detergent followed by a disinfectant (as outlined above) as soon as is practicably possible,
  - Pay special attention to frequently touched sites including door handles, backs of chairs, taps of washbasins, toilet handles.
  - Once cleaning and disinfection have been completed and all surfaces are completely dry, the area can be put back into use.
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