TOOLBOX
Safely Disinfecting Your Tools & Equipment

What products should be used for disinfection and what should be disinfected:

- Household or commercial disinfection products (follow manufacturer's instructions for disinfection), or a bleach solution (1-part bleach and 9 parts water)
- Cleaning and disinfection should be done as often as possible and at a minimum at the beginning of shift, before eating, between crew changes, end of shift.
- Surfaces Need to be Clean Before They Can Be Disinfected. All Dirt, Dust, and Other Materials Must Be Removed From A Surface Prior To Disinfecting

Soap and Water

Just the friction from scrubbing with soap and water can break the coronavirus's protective envelope. Discard the towel or leave it in a bowl of soapy water for a while to destroy any virus particles that may have survived.

Bleach

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends a diluted bleach solution (⅓ cup bleach per 1 gallon of water or 4 teaspoons bleach per 1 quart of water) for virus disinfection. Wear gloves while using bleach, and never mix it with ammonia or anything, in fact, except water. Once mixed, don't keep the solution for longer than a day because bleach will degrade certain plastic containers.

Always clean the surface with water and detergent first, since many materials can react with bleach and deactivate it. Dry the surface then apply the bleach solution and let it sit for at least 10 minutes before wiping it off.

Isopropyl Alcohol

Alcohol solutions with at least 70 percent alcohol are effective against coronavirus on hard surfaces. First, clean the surface with water and detergent. Apply the alcohol solution (do not dilute it) and let it sit on the surface for at least 30 seconds to disinfect. Alcohol is generally safe for all surfaces but can discolor some plastics.

Hydrogen Peroxide

According to the CDC, household (3 percent) hydrogen peroxide is effective in deactivating rhinovirus, the virus that causes the common cold, within 6 to 8 minutes of exposure. Rhinovirus is more difficult to destroy than coronaviruses, so hydrogen peroxide should be able to break down coronavirus in less time. Pour it undiluted into a spray bottle and spray it on the surface to be cleaned, but let it sit on the surface for at least 1 minute. *Hydrogen peroxide is not corrosive, so it's okay to use it on metal surfaces.*

Resource: BCCSA - www.bccsa.ca

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