# Sullivan County Department of Public Health

<u><b>Title</b></u> : Cleaning and Disinfecting of Equipment	Original Approval: 6 / 1 8
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## Statement/ Purpose:

To prevent the transmission of infection and communicable diseases through the cleaning and disinfecting of equipment.

## Authority:

CMS-3819-F Medicare and Medicaid Program: Conditions of Participation for Home Health Care Agencies §484.70 (a) Standard: Prevention., CDC: Disinfection in Ambulatory Care, Home Care, and the Home. https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/disinfection/healthcare-equipment.html

## **Application:**

All staff.

## Terminology:

Semi-critical Items: Items that come in contact with mucous membranes or non-intact skin. In home care these items include: oral thermometer and respiratory therapy equipment.

*Non-critical Items:* Items that come in contact with intact skin but not mucous membranes. In home care these items include: blood pressure cuff, laptop computer keyboard/ screen, stethoscope, pulse oximeter, etc.

## **Responsible Party:**

Training and Quality Improvement Coordinator

#### **Cross-Reference:**

Infection Control Plan, Hand Hygiene, Bag Technique

#### Procedure:

#### Cleaning and Disinfecting of Semi-critical Equipment:

1. Utilize equipment.

2. Maintain a separation between clean and dirty equipment by utilizing barrier surfaces to place contaminated equipment on. Use standard bag technique; see BAG TECHNIQUE POLICY.

3. Open alcohol swab and use firm pressure with rotary motion to clean equipment.

- 4. Return equipment to nursing bag or other clean storage.
- 5. Dispose of used alcohol swabs.

#### Cleaning and Disinfecting of Non-critical Equipment:

- 1. Use equipment and maintain in clean environment.
- 2. Maintain a separation between equipment and unclean environment by utilizing barrier surfaces to place

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equipment on. Use standard bag technique; see BAG TECHNIQUE POLICY.

3. If contact with non-intact or unclean skin is unavoidable, an impermeable barrier should be utilized.

4. Stethoscope: is cleansed after use with alcohol swab in home.

\*If contaminated, Blood Pressure Cuff: Disposable cover remains in the home. Non-disposable cover, bladder, valve & gauge are cleansed with alcohol swabs, detergent or per manufacturer's instructions.