

# *Routine Practice Cleaning*

Routine cleaning with detergent and water is sufficient for almost all surfaces.

Damp wiping of surfaces and damp mopping of smooth floors is the preferred method as dry dusting and sweeping will cause airborne bacteria levels to rise.

Recommended dilution levels for cleaning agents are to be strictly adhered to.

All unused cleaning agent mixtures are to be discarded at the end of the day.

Spray bottle should be emptied at the end of the day, rinsed and left upside down to dry overnight.

Buckets cleaning cloths and mop heads should be stored clean and dry between use. Sponges do not dry out easily and should not be used.

General-purpose gloves should be worn when cleaning. (Protective eye wear and gown as well if there is a risk of splashing).

Surfaces should not be left wet as this encourages the growth of microorganisms.

## **Daily Cleaning**

- Benchtops
- Trolleys
- Examination & Treatment Couches
- All surgery equipment for patient/clinical use such as stethoscopes and scales
- Protective eyewear
- Reusable Aprons
- Sinks
- Floors
- Toilets/bathrooms
- Food handling and eating areas.

## **Weekly Cleaning**

- Waiting room and office furniture
- Waiting room toys

### Notes

1. This procedure should be included as part of a cleaning contract.
2. Disinfectants can be problematic and are not usually a necessary part of routine cleaning.
3. Alcohols are important as skin cleansers but are not recommended for surface cleaning within general practice. They may cause surfaces to deteriorate and are highly inflammable.
4. It is far more cost effective to use one good detergent for all cleaning processes than to spend money on many similar products.
5. Mild alkaline (pH 8 to 10.8) detergents should be used in most applications as this improves the cleaning efficacy: eg. "Sonident" – 10mls per litre of water. Agents approved by the Therapeutic Goods Association will display a certification number on the label.
6. Material safety data sheets should be obtained for all chemicals in the practice including detergents.