**Southwestern Vermont Hospital – Halo Disinfection Policy and Procedure**

Pertains to: Housekeeping

Effective Date: 1/13

Revised Date: 2/13; 4/13; 7/13; 8/13

Review Date:

**I. POLICY:**

A. The Halo fogger is approved as an adjunct to regular cleaning and disinfection of hard, nonporous surfaces by the EPA. It provides an added layer of protection against bacteria, viruses and fungi. The Halo fogger is not intended for use as a stand-alone disinfectant process, but used for supplemental room disinfection after a room has been cleaned and disinfected (i.e. for multi-drug resistant organism rooms after their terminal clean).

**II. DEFINITIONS:**

A. The Halo fogger will be used at Southwestern Vermont Medical Center (SVMC) and Centers for Living & Rehabilitation (CLR) as an adjunct to regular cleaning and disinfection.

**III. EQUIPMENT:**

A. Halo fogger (machine)

B. Sanosil disinfectant solution

C. 2" painter's tape

D. Vent covers

E. Bath blanket

F. Signs

G. Erasable marker

H. Bag to hold supplies

I. Prefilled pray bottle of Sanosil (to disinfect areas without doors)

**IV. PROCEDURE:**

**A. Disinfecting rooms with doors:**

1. **Housekeeper Responsibility:**

a. Before cleaning a patient precaution room at time of discharge, verify the room is

a "true" precaution by calling the nurse designee by calling extension 4015.

b. If the patient room is a precaution room notify the housekeeping supervisor/lead

person on extension 6148.

c. Clean the room using the six step procedure.

d. Open drawers, closets, cubicle curtains half way, window curtains half way, put

blinds down and open slats and open bathroom door.

e. Housekeepers are to check dirty utility room container to see if there are left over patient admission kit supplies that need Halo disinfection.

f. If so, put the box in the cleaned patient room.

2. **Project Person Responsibility:**

a. A project person will be assigned to disinfect the room using the Halo fogger and

will use the following procedure:

b. Cover the intake vents with vent covers.

c. **Check the Halo fogger to make sure the time is set correctly and Sanosil**

**disinfectant is full.**

i. Set timer to **10 minutes** for rooms on **east and west** and wait a total of 90

minutes (10 min + 80 min) before reentering the room.

ii. **Women's & Children's Department:**

a. **For Women's & Children's only: Call Engineering on extension**

**5601disconnect the fire alarm in the room prior to using the**

**Halo Fogger.**

b. Set the timer to **15 minutes** for rooms on **Women's & Children's**

and wait a total 95 minutes (15 min+ 80 min) before reentering the room.

d. Press and hold the start button until the light starts blinking red. The machine will start the disinfecting process 30 seconds from the time the light blinks. You must leave the room within the 30 second timeframe.

e. Leave the room, close the door and place a bath blanket at the foot of the door

and tape the crease that borders the door to block any spray from escaping the room.

f. Place a yellow sign on the door marked "Do not enter room, Halo Disinfecting in Process"

g. Put the start time and end time on the sign using an erasable marker.

h. **When disinfecting process is complete - Project Person:**

i. Remove blanket from door and place in the laundry hamper.

ii. Move machine outside the room

iii. Remove vent covers

i. **Housekeeper** to close drawers, closets, etc., and make the bed.

B. Call bed management on extension 5507, and let them know the room is ready.

1. **For Women's & Children's Department:**

a. **Call Engineering to reconnect the fire alarm on extension 5601 and then call bed management on extension 5507 to let them know Engineering will reconnect the fire alarm and then the room will be ready.**

C. Return the Halo fogger to the housekeeping storage area.

D. Refill the Sanosil disinfectant, spot clean the machine (as needed) and check stock of equipment for the next use.

E. Restock as needed.

**A. Disinfecting Area with no doors:**

1. Spray Sanosil disinfectant on surfaces for 2-3 seconds until thoroughly wet holding the spray bottle upright 6-8" from the surface.

2. Let stand and air dry for 10 minutes.

B. **All precaution rooms will be fogged at time of discharge.**

1. **OR**

a. All operating rooms will be fogged once a month.

b. Prior approval from OR designee is required.

2. **PACU**

a. Room 8 (precaution room) will be fogged once a day after last discharge cleaning

-Monday - Friday.

3. **ED**

a. All rooms will be fogged once a month.

**A. Halo fogger use by CLR Housekeeping:**

1. CLR Housekeeping staff will request the Halo fogger from SVMC Housekeeping.

2. SVMC housekeeping will place the Halo fogger (filled with Sanosil disinfectant along

with supplies) on the dock.

3. When CLR housekeeping finishes using the fogger, the machine will be spot cleaned (if needed), restocked with supplies, refilled with Sanosil, and returned to the SVMC

housekeeping storage area.

4. CLR housekeeping will contact SVMC housekeeping on extension 6148 and notify them that the Halo fogger has been returned to the dock. **Note: CLR Housekeeping is**

**responsible for transport of the Halo fogger machine to and from CLR.**

**V. EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE:**

A. The Halo fogger will be spot cleaned (as needed) after each use, supplies restocked, refilled with Sanosil disinfectant, and returned to the housekeeping storage area.

B. Report any malfunction of the Halo fogger machine to the housekeeping supervisor/designee.

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