



## CLEANING GUIDELINES FOR MPR PADS

### General:

- Follow established cleaning and disinfection methods (e.g., hospital procedures or *CDC Guidelines for Disinfection and Sterilization in Healthcare facilities, 2008*).
- Do not apply tape to any pad.
- Inspect pad exterior covers and seams as well as the inside of the pads prior to use for any wear, tear, damage, or contamination. Do not use damaged or contaminated pads.
- Use recommended products and methods for cleaning and disinfecting your pads.
- Avoid “pooling” of cleaning agents or rinses on the surface of the pad.
- *Important: Carefully towel dry pads, rather than simply air-drying.*

### Recommendations for Cleaning/Disinfecting

#### ***Cleaning of Soils and Stains***

Wash with a generous application of neutral soap suds and lukewarm water. Rinse with water and dry. Do not immerse.

*Or*

Use a diluted bleach solution of 10-parts water to 1-part bleach. Wipe dry with a clean cloth. Do not immerse. Bleach **MUST** be diluted to the 10:1 ratio.

Note: All chemical/solutions **MUST** be diluted to the manufacturer’s recommendations (look closely, they often have the proper dilutions in “fine print” on the container—they **WANT** you to use more than you need). No chemical or solution should be left to dry on the pad surface. After the allotted time has passed to insure disinfection, the pad surface should be wiped again with a wet cloth to remove the remaining chemical or solution.

#### ***Disinfecting***

Use Lysol Brand III I.C. Disinfectant Aerosol Spray by Reckitt Benckiser Inc., Montvale, NJ (per manufacturer’s instructions).

*Or*

Use a diluted bleach solution of 10-parts water to 1-part bleach. Wipe dry with a clean cloth. Do not immerse. Bleach **MUST** be diluted to the 10:1 ratio.

Note: All chemical/solutions **MUST** be diluted to the manufacturers recommendations (look closely, they often have the proper dilutions in “fine print” on the container—they **WANT** you to use more than you need). No chemical or solution should be left to dry on the pad surface. After the allotted time has passed to insure disinfection, the pad surface should be wiped again with a wet cloth to remove the remaining chemical or solution.

The following Steris products are also acceptable for use in cleaning and disinfecting pads:

- Steris Coverage Plus Wipes 1608-WC, -GS, -G4
- Steris Coverage Spray HB Plus 1624-77
- Steris Coverage Spray TB Plus 1629-B4, -08

## **Cleaning DOs and DON'Ts for Healthcare Fabrics**

### ***Cleaning DOs:***

- DO clean all stains promptly.
- DO use only fabric-safe cleaning agents or disinfectants.
- DO use appropriate quaternary or phenolic-type disinfectants if nylon fabric needs to be sanitized.
- DO dilute all disinfectants and germicides in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
- DO wipe fabric clean with neutral soap suds and lukewarm water.
- DO rinse thoroughly.
- DO towel dry.
- DO allow adequate drying time before returning to service.
- DO use a soft sponge with liquid cleaner as specified on the cleaner manufacturer's product label for hard-to-clean areas.
- DO clean daily to control or prevent odors on long-term incontinent applications.
- DO use a scented cleaner or disinfectant that is designed for use on fabrics if needed to control odors on long-term incontinent applications.
- DO disinfect blood contamination with a 1:10 dilution of household bleach (5.25% sodium hypochlorite) as recommended by the CDC (Center for Disease Control, US Dept. of Health and Human Service, February 1989); a weaker dilution, e.g., 1:100 may be used, but may not be in accordance with CDC recommendations.
- DO be aware that staining chemicals and cleaning agents can affect fabric strength, finish and color.
- DO inspect pads frequently to ensure that new stains can be treated promptly.

### ***Cleaning DON'Ts:***

- DO NOT machine wash or machine dry.
- DO NOT use harsh cleaners or solvents.
- DO NOT use cleaning agents designed for use on hard, non-porous or metal surfaces.
- DO NOT use iodophor-type disinfectants, such as Betadine, as they will stain the fabric.
- DO NOT use household bleach or concentrated cleaning agents, disinfectants or germicides without diluting the product according to manufacturer's instructions.
- DO NOT allow any cleaning agent to remain in contact with the fabric or "dwell" on the fabric for a prolonged period of time.
- DO NOT fail to adequately rinse the cleaning agent or disinfectant from the fabric.
- DO NOT fail to towel dry pads after cleaning/rinsing.