

# Cleaning Procedures for Student Housing in Response to COVID-19

Revised August 2020

Locations: All UCM Student Housing Units

Affected Occupations: Custodians, Sr. Custodians, Custodial Leads

## BACKGROUND

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), there is much to learn about the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV2) that causes coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). Based on what is currently known about the virus and about similar coronaviruses that cause SARS and MERS, transmission from person-to-person happens most frequently among close contacts (within about 6 feet). This type of transmission occurs via respiratory droplets. Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 to persons from surfaces contaminated with the virus has not been documented. Transmission of coronavirus in general occurs more commonly through respiratory droplets than through fomites such as clothes, utensils, and furniture.

Current evidence suggests that SARS-CoV-2 may remain viable for hours to days on surfaces made from a variety of materials. Cleaning of visibly dirty surfaces followed by disinfection is a best practice measure for prevention of COVID-19 and other viral respiratory illnesses in community settings.

It is unknown how long the air inside a room occupied by someone with confirmed COVID-19 remains potentially infectious. Facilities will need to consider factors such as the size of the room and the ventilation system design (including flowrate [air changes per hour] and location of supply and exhaust vents) when deciding how long to close off rooms or areas used by ill persons before beginning disinfection. Taking measures to improve ventilation in an area or room where someone was ill or suspected to be ill with COVID-19 will help shorten the time it takes respiratory droplets to be removed from the air.

## PURPOSE

This guidance provides recommendations on cleaning and disinfecting housing areas running under normal operation, consolidated spaces, and quarantine/isolation spaces occupied by individuals with suspected/confirmed COVID-19 infection. It is aimed at limiting the survival of COVID-19 in key environments. These recommendations will be updated as additional information becomes available.

## DEFINITIONS:

- **Cleaning** refers to the removal of dirt and impurities, including viruses, from surfaces. Cleaning alone does not kill viruses. But by removing the viruses, it decreases their number and therefore any risk of spreading infection.
- **Disinfecting** works by using chemicals, for example EPA-registered disinfectants, to kill viruses on surfaces. This process does not necessarily clean dirt off the surface but kills viruses that are present on the surface.
- **Contact Time** is the time a disinfectant is in direct contact with the surface or item to be disinfected. For surface disinfection, this period is framed by the application to the surface and leaving the disinfectant on the surface for the required contact time. Disinfectants have varying amounts of contact time.
- **Quarantine** separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick. Individuals identified for quarantine include those who have been exposed to the virus and are awaiting COVID-19 test results. A person may have been exposed to the virus without knowing it (for example, when traveling or out in the community), or they could have the virus without feeling symptoms. Quarantine helps limit further spread of COVID-19.



- **Quarantine or Isolation Spaces** refers to areas in Student Housing identified as quarantine/isolation spaces. Per advisement from Student Health Center and Orange County Health Care Agency, room assignments should have one resident per bedroom and one resident per bathroom.
- **PUI** is the abbreviated term for Person Under Investigation and is yet to be confirmed via testing whether the person is positive for the disease or not.
- **Consolidated Spaces** refers to the areas in Student Housing that have consolidated UCM-affiliated residents into contiguous buildings. Per advisement from Student Health Center and Orange County Health Care Agency, room assignments should have one resident per bedroom with no more than four residents per bathroom.
- **Isolation** refers to the separation of sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick. Individuals identified for isolation include those who have received positive test results for COVID-19.

## GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations apply to all spaces across Student Housing:

**Immediately before entering all spaces, employees should:** • Put on the following PPE prior to entering:

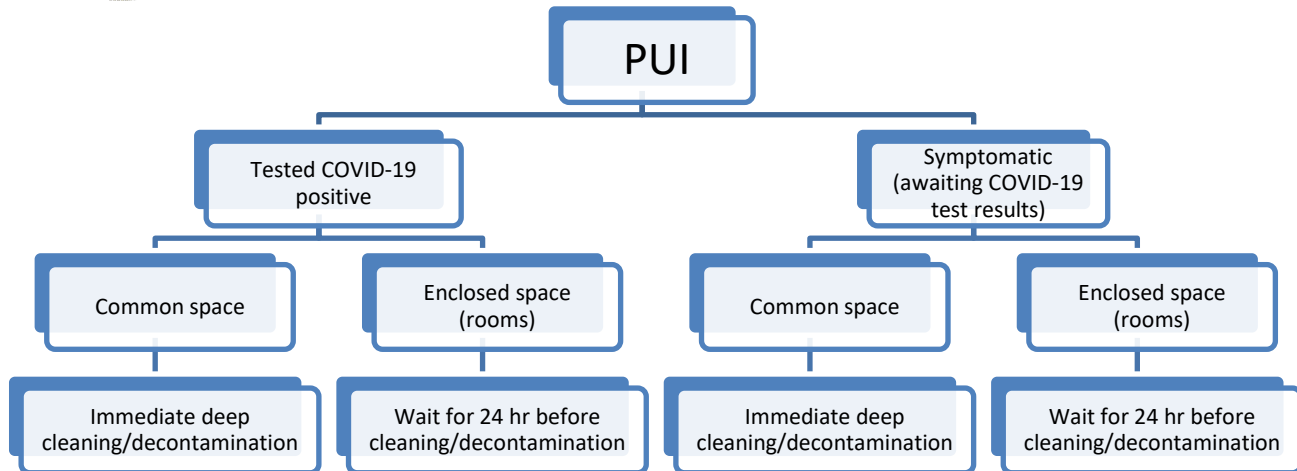
- Slip resistant shoes and/or safety glasses or goggles (if applicable)
- Disposable gloves
- Non-surgical mask/face cover
- Disposable gowns (only if working in quarantine/isolation spaces)
  - Maintain a minimum 6 feet distance from others whenever possible;
  - Avoid touching face;
  - Follow Aerosol Transmissible Disease Exposure Control Plan for UCM Student Housing Areas, where applicable

**Before leaving spaces, employees should:**

1. Remove PPE and place disposable PPE in trash bag.
2. Trash bag can be disposed of in regular trash.
3. Wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds, as soon as possible.

**EH&S strongly discourages employees from entering any quarantine/isolation rooms if/when it is occupied.**

If a person with suspected/confirmed COVID-19 visited or used **ANY** space, EH&S recommends the following procedure-



**Note:** If the wait time for 24 hours cannot be attained (for any reason), the space must be deep decontaminated (using [EPA approved disinfectant for SARS-CoV-2](#)) before it can be re-occupied. For additional guidance, please contact UCM EHS

## PROCEDURE B | Areas Designated for Quarantine/Isolation

### UCM EMPLOYEE REQUIREMENTS

Employees working in these spaces should have relevant experience in performing the job. Supervisors should provide experienced employees to assist new employees or work with the supervisor prior to starting job duties.

The following safety training is required for these employees. Contact EH&S for assistance.

- Safety Fundamentals training – available online at UC Learning Center
- Bloodborne Pathogens (BBP) training – available online at UC Learning Center
- Hazardous Communication training – available online at UC Learning Center
- Aerosol Transmissible Diseases (ATD) training – available online at UC Learning Center

## PROCEDURE A | Areas NOT Designated for Quarantine/Isolation

The following cleaning and disinfecting procedures apply to all areas in consolidated spaces identified in the *Student Housing Consolidation and Isolation Plan* and Student Housing locations running normal operations.

These procedures also apply to rooms previously occupied by residents who have **tested negative** for COVID-19 in **ALL** spaces.

If any resident(s) has tested positive for COVID-19, please refer to “Procedure B: Areas Designated for Quarantine/Isolation” section below.

### Cleaning

EH&S recommends that employees follow normal cleaning procedures **AND** follow the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products. Employees should follow instructions for appropriate product concentration, application method, contact time, and increase the frequency of cleaning for frequently used surfaces to at least once a day and as needed. Frequently used surfaces



include:

- Tables
- Desks
- Sinks
- Doorknobs
- Phones
- And all other **commonly used areas**
- Light switches
- Keyboards
- Countertops
- Toilets
- Handles
- Faucets

Cleaning frequencies for all other not as commonly used surfaces such as high windows, hard-to-reach places, etc. may stay the same/increase/decrease under the discretion of custodial supervisors and managers as long as these changes do not place residents or employees at risk of potential exposure.

Detailing and cleaning surfaces that are less frequently touched (i.e. high windows, in-between spaces, hard to reach surfaces, etc.) are not considered priority items to clean.

### **Disinfecting**

Employees proceed to follow normal disinfecting procedures for areas not designated for quarantine/isolation and increase frequency of disinfecting **commonly used areas** at least once a day and as needed. Commonly used areas include those listed above.

EH&S recommends using EPA-approved disinfectants for use against COVID-19:  
<https://www.epa.gov/pesticideregistration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>.

### **Laundering**

Employees should follow normal laundering procedures.

### **Trash Removal**

Employees should follow normal trash disposal procedures.



## PROCEDURE B | Areas Designated for Quarantine/Isolation

For spaces designated as isolation or quarantine spaces under the *Student Housing Consolidation and Isolation Plan*, and if Student Housing intends to utilize external contractors to clean and sanitize isolation or quarantine spaces, EH&S will coordinate with Clean Harbors Inc. for decontamination.

If UCM employees are expected to enter any vacated quarantine/isolation space, EH&S recommends that only employees **who are experienced and have taken the required safety training to enter these spaces** be allowed to proceed with the listed requirements and procedures.

### Procedures apply to:

- Any vacated room/apartment if resident(s) **tested positive** for COVID-19
- All quarantine/isolation spaces, including:
  - Vacated rooms/apartments
  - Elevators and stair ways, primarily those with high foot-traffic
  - Shared spaces such as laundry rooms, kitchens, and bathrooms
  - Lobbies and corridors
  - Other areas with frequently touched surfaces (i.e. doorknobs, windows, etc.)

### Cleaning and disinfecting

EH&S will coordinate with Clean Harbors Inc. for decontamination of all spaces occupied by COVID-19 positive individuals.

### Trash Removal

EHS personnel are responsible for removing household waste from residences with suspected (quarantine) and confirmed (isolation) COVID-19 infection. EHS recommended procedure is listed below-

For waste/trash located **inside** Residences:

- Residents (PUI/COVID positive person) should:
  1. Collect and double bag the waste in a trash bag
  2. Seal the bag with an overhand knot
  3. Spray the exterior of the bag with a disinfectant
  4. Fill in a biohazard waste label (provided in Q&I kit) with room number and building name and affix the label to the outside of the bag
  5. Place bag **outside** the room/residence

When removing waste/trash located **outside** residences, EHS employees should:

- Collect the waste from the outside of the room wearing proper PPE and dispose of the waste as medical waste.

**Note: If PUI tested negative and show no symptoms for COVID-19, trash will not be removed by the EH&S.**



## Appendix A | Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Safety Training

The following table summarizes the required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and safety trainings that Student Housing employees should take before starting the job tasks listed in Procedure A and Procedure B.

### PPE and Training for Procedure A

	Disposable Nitrile Glove	Non-Surgical Mask/Face Cover	Slip Resistant Shoes/ Cover	Safety Glasses	Splash Resistant Goggles	Safety Fundamentals	Hazardous Communication	Aerosol Transmissible Diseases (ATD)	Bloodborne Pathogens (BBP)
Procedure A	PPE					Relevant Training			
Cleaning* with the Following Products:									
Germicidal Ultra Bleach (contact time: 5 minute)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Swish Disinfectant Cleaner Aerosol (contact time: 10 minutes)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Cleaning and Disinfecting with the Following Products:									
730 HP Disinfectant Cleaner (contact time: 5 minutes)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
764 Lemon Quat Disinfectant Cleaner (contact time: 10 minutes)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
910 Finale FS No Rinse Sanitizer (contact time: 10 minutes)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Buckeye Terminator (contact time: 10 minutes)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Cell Block 64 (contact time: 10 minutes)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
DBBC Disinfectant Bathroom and Bowl Cleaner (contact time: 10 minutes)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Morning Mist (contact time: 10)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Oxivir Tb (contact time: 1 minute)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Oxivir Wipes (contact time: 1 minute)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
TB-Cide Quat (contact time: 10 minutes)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Virex TB (contact time: 3 minutes)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Other Custodial Duties (vacuuming, sweeping, dusting, etc.)	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Trash Disposal	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X

\*Cleaning products are not disinfectants.

Reviewed by Merced County DPH v.2.0\_August 2020



## PPE and Training for Procedure B

	Disposable Nitrile Glove	Non-Surgical Mask/Face Cover	Slip Resistant Shoes/ Cover	Safety Glasses	Splash Resistant Goggles	Safety Fundamentals	Hazardous Communication	Aerosol Transmissible Diseases (ATD)	Bloodborne Pathogens (BBP)
Procedure B	PPE					Relevant Training			
Cleaning* with the Following Products:									
Germicidal Ultra Bleach (contact time: 5 minute)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Cleaning and Disinfecting with the Following Products:									
730 HP Disinfectant Cleaner (contact time: 5 minutes)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
764 Lemon Quat Disinfectant Cleaner (contact time: 10 minutes)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
910 Finale FS No Rinse Sanitizer (contact time: 10 minutes)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Buckeye Terminator (contact time: 10 minutes)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Cell Block 64 (contact time: 10 minutes)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Morning Mist (contact time: 10)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Oxivir Tb (contact time: 1 minute)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Oxivir Wipes (contact time: 1 minute)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
TB-Cide Quat (contact time: 10 minutes)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Other Custodial Duties (vacuuming, sweeping, dusting, etc.)	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Laundry Duties	X	X	X			X	X	X	X
Trash Disposal	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X

**Please Note:** Chemical products listed in Procedure B are EPA-approved disinfectants for use against COVID-19: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>. To find a product on List N, enter the first two sets of the chemical's EPA registration number found on the SDS or specification sheet into the search bar above the first column of List N. The number will generate the product and/or its equivalent if it is an EPA approved disinfectants for use against SARS-CoV-2.

For example, if EPA Reg. No. 12345-12 is on List N, you can buy EPA Reg. No. 12345-12-2567 and know you're getting an equivalent product. You can find this number by looking for the



EPA Reg. No. on the product label.

If you are unable to find a product on the list, look at a different product's label to confirm it has an EPA registration number and that human coronavirus is listed as a target pathogen.

## Appendix A | Personal Protective Equipment (Continued)

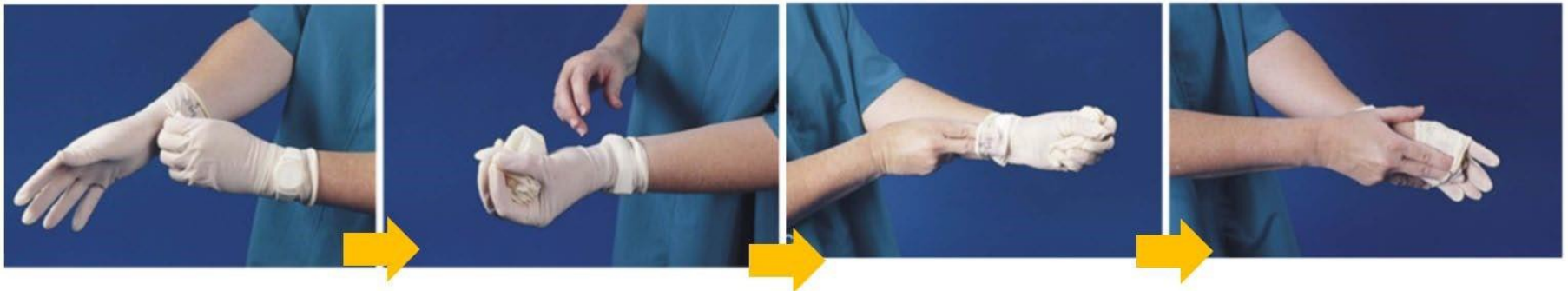
### **Putting on and Removing Disposable Gloves:**

When **putting on** gloves, employees should:

1. Check for holes
2. Put on gloves
3. Move hand around

When **removing** gloves, employees should:

1. Pinch glove and roll it down until the glove is completely off in a ball in the palm of the other hand.
2. Then slide a finger(s) down and inside the glove on the other hand and pull it off until it's balled around the first glove.
3. Throw gloves away immediately and wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds.





Appendix B | Additional information

**COVID 19**  
CORONAVIRUS DISEASE

## STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.

Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.

Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

CDC

FOR MORE INFORMATION: [www.cdc.gov/COVID19](http://www.cdc.gov/COVID19)

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## SYMPTOMS OF COVID 19

Symptoms\* can include

Patients with COVID-19 have experienced mild to severe respiratory illness. Seek medical advice if you develop symptoms, and have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or if you live in or have recently been in an area with ongoing spread of COVID-19.

FEVER

COUGH

SHORTNESS OF BREATH

\*Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure.

CDC

FOR MORE INFORMATION: [www.cdc.gov/COVID19-symptoms](http://www.cdc.gov/COVID19-symptoms)

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## COVID-19 UPDATES

For UC Merced COVID-19 Updates

[emergency.ucmerced.edu/coronavirus](https://emergency.ucmerced.edu/coronavirus)

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