



# HEPATITIS A: Disinfection Instructions

Public Health  
Environmental Health Services

Hepatitis A is a highly contagious virus that causes liver infection. The virus is found in the stool of people with Hepatitis A and is spread when someone ingests the virus through contaminated food, drinks or other objects. Contaminated surfaces can transfer the virus for up to one month after contamination. One infected person can transmit the virus to hundreds of people.

Take steps to protect yourself and your community from hepatitis A

## Proper Handwashing and Cleaning Touched Surfaces

Handwashing is an important method to prevent the spread of hepatitis A. Surfaces that are frequently touched should be cleaned and disinfected often, which include, but not limited to:

- Restroom Surfaces
- Kitchen Surfaces
- Light Switch Plates
- Phones
- Infant Highchairs
- Tables and Chairs
- Doorknobs and Handles
- Computer Keyboards
- Wheelchairs and Walkers
- Recreation Equipment
- Railings
- Remote Controls

### Steps for Effective Disinfection

Effective disinfectant cleaning solutions are needed to properly control hepatitis A. Disinfectants include **chlorine bleach (with no additives/scents)** or are approved for use as noted on the product label.

- ✓ Chlorine disinfectants should only be used on solid (nonporous) surfaces or surfaces that will not be damaged.

A chlorine solution can be made by mixing:



### Guide to Clean Vomit or Feces

1. Wear gloves, a mask and protect your clothing.
2. Block off area immediately.
3. Using disposable paper towels or other disposable items, clean as much vomit or feces as possible. Throw away the paper towels in a plastic bag and securely seal or tie the plastic bag.
4. Clean the area thoroughly using effective disinfectant cleaning solution. (See Steps for Effective Disinfection)
5. When done cleaning, remove your gloves and then your mask and protective clothing. Throw away all the items in a plastic bag and tightly seal.
6. Wear a set of new gloves and throw away all bagged trash items. Do not let the bag touch your skin.
7. When finished, wash your hands thoroughly for at least 20 seconds using warm water and soap.

## Safely Handling Cleaning Products

- Always wear gloves and protective gear
- Do not mix different cleaning products
- Use disinfectant solutions in well-ventilated areas
- Keep cleaning products in a safe location
- Handle contaminated material as little as possible and with minimal agitation to reduce aerosols
- Throw away cleaning products in a properly sealed and secure trash container



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