

Abbreviations and Glossary used in IPAC Canada's Audit Toolkit and other Documents

Abbreviations

ABHR	Alcohol-Based Hand Rub
ACIPC	Australasian College for Infection Prevention and Control
ADM	Automated Dispensing Machine
AER	Automated Endoscope Reprocessor
AGMP:	Aerosol-Generating Medical Procedure
aHP	Aerosolized Hydrogen Peroxide
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AIIR	Airborne Infection Isolation Room
AIPI	Association des infirmières en prévention des infections
AKC	Adenovirus Keratoconjunctivitis
ALT	Alanine Transaminase
AMMI	Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease Canada
Anti-HCV	Hepatitis C Antibody
Anti-HBc	Hepatitis B Core Antigen Antibody
Anti-HBs	Hepatitis B Surface Antigen Antibody
AP	Additional Precautions
APIC	Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology
ARI	Acute Respiratory Infection
ARO	Antibiotic-Resistant Organism
ART	Antiretroviral Therapy
ASA	American Society of Anesthesiologists
AVF	Arteriovenous Fistula
AVG	Arteriovenous Graft
BAL	bronchoalveolar lavage
BI	Biological Indicator
BSI	Bloodstream Infection
CABG	Coronary Artery Bypass Graft
CACMID	Canadian Association for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases
CAD	Canadian Dollars
CADTH	Canadian Association for Drugs and Technology in Healthcare
CAEM	Canadian Association of Environmental Management
CAMDR	Canadian Association for Medical Device Reprocessing
CA-MRSA	Community-Associated Methicillin-Resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>

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CAP	Community-Acquired Pneumonia
CAUTI	Catheter-associated Urinary Tract Infection
CBIC	Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology
CBRNE	Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive
CCC	Complex Continuing Care
CCU	Coronary Care Unit
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (U.S.)
CDI	<i>Clostridium difficile</i> Infection
CFID	Canadian Foundation for Infectious Diseases
CFU	Colony-Forming Units
CHAIR	Coalition for Healthcare Acquired Infection Reduction
CHEC	Canadian Hospital Epidemiology Committee
CHES	Canadian Healthcare Engineering Society
CHG	Chlorhexidine Gluconate
CI	Chemical Indicator
CIC®	Certified in Infection Control
CIHI	Canadian Institute for Health Information
CJIC	Canadian Journal of Infection Control
CJD	Creutzfeldt - Jakob disease
CLABSI	Central Line-associated Bloodstream Infection
CMOH	Chief Medical Officer of Health
CMV	Cytomegalovirus
CNA	Canadian Nurses Association
CNISP	Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program
CPE	Carbapenemase-producing <i>Enterobacteriaceae</i>
CPHA	Canadian Public Health Association
CPSI	Canadian Patient Safety Institute
CRBSI	Catheter-related Bloodstream Infection
CSA	Canadian Standards Association
CSP	Compounded Sterile Preparation
CVAA	Canadian Vascular Access Association
CVC	Central Venous Catheter
DHCP	Dental Health Care Personnel
DIN	Drug Identification Number (Health Canada)
EBM	Expressed Breast Milk

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ECDC	European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control
ECG	Electrocardiogram
EHP	Enhanced Hydrogen Peroxide
EIA	Enzyme Immunoassay
EKG	Epidemic Keratoconjunctivitis
EMS	Emergency Medical Services
ES	Environmental Services/ Housekeeping Department
ESBL	Extended-Spectrum Beta Lactamase
FDA	Food and Drug Administration (U.S.)
FNIB	First Nations and Inuit Health Branch
F/P/T	Federal, Provincial, Territorial
FTE	Full-Time Equivalent
GBS	Group B Streptococcus
GI	Gastrointestinal Illness
HAI	Health Care-Associated Infection
HBIG	Hepatitis B Immune Globulin
HBeAg	Hepatitis B 'e' antigen
HBsAg	Hepatitis B Surface Antigen
HBV	Hepatitis B Virus
HCV	Hepatitis C Virus
HCW	Health Care Worker
HEPA	High Efficiency Particulate Air
HFN	Health File Number
HHC	Home Health Care
HICPAC	Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (U.S.)
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HLD	High-Level Disinfection
HMBANA	Human Milk Bank Association of North America
HME	Heat-and-Moisture Exchanger
HP	Hydrogen Peroxide
HP-EAF	Hydrogen Peroxide Enhanced Action Formulation
HPPA	Health Protection and Promotion Act
HSCT	Haematopoietic Stem-cell Transplant
HSV	Herpes Simplex Virus
HTLV	Human T-Lymphotropic Virus
HVAC	Heat, Ventilation and Air Conditioning

Abbreviations and Glossary used in IPAC Canada's Audit Toolkit and other Documents

IAP	Intrapartum Antibiotic Prophylaxis
ICID	International Center for Infectious Diseases
ICP	Infection Prevention and Control Professional
ICU	Intensive Care Unit
IFIC	International Federation of Infection Control
ILI	Influenza-Like Illness
IPAC	Infection Prevention and Control
IPAC Canada	Infection Prevention and Control Canada
IPACC	Infection Prevention and Control Committee
IPCI	Infection Prevention and Control Ireland
IPS	Infection Prevention Society
IUSS	Immediate-Use Steam Sterilization
JHSC	joint health and safety committee
LLD	Low-Level Disinfection
LTC	Long-Term Care
MEC	Minimum Effective Concentration
MDRC	Medical Device Reprocessing Centre
MF	Microfibre
MIC	Minimal Inhibitory Concentration
MICU	Medical Intensive Care Unit
MMR	Measles/Mumps/Rubella Vaccine
MOH	Medical Officer of Health
MRSA	Methicillin-Resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
MSDS	Materials Safety Data Sheet
MSM	Men who have sex with men
MSSA	Methicillin-Sensitive <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
NCCID	National Collaborating Centre for Infectious Diseases
NGU	Non-gonococcal urethritis
NHSN	National Healthcare Safety Network
NICU	Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
NIOSH	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (U.S.)
NPN	Natural Product Number
NPS	nasopharyngeal swab
N95	NIOSH-Certified Respirator
N/A	Not Applicable
OH&S	Occupational Health and Safety
OHSAA	<i>Occupational Health and Safety Act</i>

Abbreviations and Glossary used in IPAC Canada's Audit Toolkit and other Documents

OMT	Outbreak Management Team
OPA	Ortho-phthalaldehyde
OR	Operating Room
ORNAC	Operating Room Nurses Association of Canada
PCD	Process Challenge Device
PCI Canada	Prévention et contrôle des infections Canada
PCR	Polymerase Chain Reaction
PHAC	Public Health Agency of Canada
PHDM	Pasteurized Human Donor Milk
PHO	Public Health Ontario
PHU	public health unit
PI	Povidone Iodine
PID	Pelvic inflammatory disease
PIDAC	Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee
PIF	Powdered Infant Formula
ppm	Parts per Million
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
QUAT	Quaternary Ammonium Compound
RLU	Relative Light Unit
RCPS	Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons
RNFOO	Registered Nurses Foundation of Ontario
RO	Reverse Osmosis
RP	Routine Practices
RP/AP	Routine Practices/Additional Precautions
RSV	Respiratory Syncytial Virus
SARS	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome
SD	Standard Deviation
SENIC	Study on the Effectiveness of Nosocomial Infection Control
SIR	Standardized Infection Ratio
SSI	Surgical Site Infection
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
SUD	Single-Use Disposable
TB	Tuberculosis
TBA	To be announced
TBD	To be determined
TPN	Total Parenteral Nutrition
UMF	Ultramicrofibre

Abbreviations and Glossary used in IPAC Canada's Audit Toolkit and other Documents

USFDA	United States Food and Drug Administration
UTI	Urinary Tract Infection
UVI	Ultraviolet Irradiation
VAE	Ventilator-associated Event
VAP	Ventilator-associated Pneumonia
VHP	Vapourized Hydrogen Peroxide
VISA	Vancomycin-Intermediate <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
VOC	Volatile Organic Compounds
VRE	Vancomycin-Resistant Enterococcus
VRSA	Vancomycin-Resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
WHMIS	Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System
WHO	World Health Organization
ZDV	Zidovudine

Glossary

Adverse Event: An unexpected and undesired incident directly associated with the care or services provided to the client/patient/resident.

Additional Precautions (AP): The precautions (i.e., Contact Precautions, Droplet Precautions, Airborne Precautions) that are necessary in addition to Routine Practices for certain pathogens or clinical presentations. These precautions are based on the method of transmission (e.g., contact, droplet, airborne).

Administrative Controls: Measures put in place to reduce the risk of infection to staff or to patients (e.g., infection prevention and control policies/ procedures, education/ training).

Automated Endoscope Reprocessor (AER): Machines designed to assist with the cleaning and disinfection of endoscopes.

Aerosol: Small droplet of moisture that may carry microorganisms. Aerosols may be light enough to remain suspended in the air for short periods of time, allowing inhalation of the microorganism.

Aerosol-Generating Medical Procedure (AGMP): Medical procedures that can generate aerosols as a result of artificial manipulation of a person's airway. Facial protection (mask, eye protection) is required when performing AGMPs.

Airborne Infection Isolation Room (AIIR): A room that is designed, constructed and ventilated to limit the spread of airborne microorganisms from an infected occupant to the surrounding areas of the health care setting. This is also known as a negative pressure room. NOTE: The Canadian Standards Association uses the term *Airborne Isolation Room*, abbreviated *AIR*.

Airborne Precautions: Precautions that are used in addition to Routine Practices for clients/patients/residents known or suspected of having an illness transmitted by the airborne route (i.e., by small droplet nuclei that remain suspended in the air and may be inhaled by others).

Alcohol-Based Hand Rub (ABHR): A liquid, gel or foam formulation of alcohol (e.g. ethanol, isopropanol) which is used to reduce the number of microorganisms on hands in clinical situations when the hands are not visibly soiled. ABHRs contain emollients to reduce skin irritation and are less time-consuming to use than washing with soap and water. ABHR is available at concentrations of 60-90%, however a minimum concentration of 70% is

Abbreviations and Glossary used in IPAC Canada's Audit Toolkit and other Documents

recommended.

Antibiotic-Resistant Organism (ARO): A microorganism that has developed resistance to the action of several antimicrobial agents and that is of special clinical or epidemiological significance (e.g., ESBL, MRSA, VRE).

Antimicrobial/Antiseptic Soap: Soap (detergent) that contains an antimicrobial agent (e.g., chlorhexidine, hexachlorophene, iodine compounds, triclosan, chloroxylenol/PCMX) to reduce the numbers of microorganisms on the skin.

Antiseptic: An agent that can kill microorganisms and is applied to living tissue and skin.

Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI): Any new onset acute respiratory infection that could potentially be spread by the droplet route (either upper or lower respiratory tract), which presents with symptoms of a fever greater than 38

breath (previously known as febrile respiratory illness, or FRI). It should be noted that elderly people and people who are immunocompromised may not have a febrile response to a respiratory infection.

Aseptic Procedure: A clinical procedure that requires aseptic technique.

Aseptic Technique: Conditions and procedures used to exclude the introduction of microbial contamination.

Audit: A methodical examination and review of expected processes/ practices.

Automated Endoscope Reprocessor (AER): Machine designed to assist with the cleaning and disinfection of endoscopes. Some AERs may also assist with the cleaning prior to disinfection.

Barriers: Equipment or objects used to prevent exposure of skin, mucous membranes or clothing of staff to splashes or sprays of potentially infectious materials.

Bioburden: The number and types of viable microorganisms that contaminate a medical device.

Biological Indicator (BI): A sterilization process monitoring device consisting of a standardized, viable population of microorganisms (usually bacterial spores) known to have a high resistance to the mode of sterilization being monitored.

Biomedical Waste: Contaminated, infectious waste from a health care setting that requires treatment prior to disposal in landfill sites or sanitary sewer systems. Biomedical waste includes human anatomical waste; human and animal cultures or specimens (excluding urine and faeces); human liquid blood and blood products; items contaminated with blood or blood products that would release liquid or semi-liquid blood if compressed; body fluids visibly contaminated with blood; body fluids removed in the course of surgery, treatment or for diagnosis (excluding urine and faeces); sharps; and broken glass which has come into contact with blood or body fluid.

Carbapenemase: A class of enzymes that inactivate carbapenem antibiotics by hydrolysing them. In almost all instances, these enzymes hydrolyse not only carbapenem antimicrobials but also first-, second- and third-generation cephalosporins and penicillins (e.g., piperacillin-tazobactam). The genetic information to produce carbapenemases is often located on a mobile genetic element (e.g., plasmid, transposon), which frequently also carries resistance to other classes of antimicrobials, such as fluoroquinolones and aminoglycosides.

Carbapenemase-Producing *Enterobacteriaceae* (CPE): For the purposes of this document, these are *Enterobacteriaceae* that are resistant to carbapenem antimicrobials (e.g., imipenem, meropenem, ertapenem) through the production of carbapenemase.

Case: In epidemiology, an individual who is infected or colonized with a particular microorganism.

Certified in Infection Control (CIC®): A credential obtained from the Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc. (CBIC) following the successful completion of a written examination. Re-certification is required every five years to maintain certification. More information may be found on the CBIC website: <http://www.cbic.org/>. CIC® is a legal designation and may only be used by those who have attained and maintained certification.

Abbreviations and Glossary used in IPAC Canada's Audit Toolkit and other Documents

Certification in Reprocessing: Completion of a recognized certification course in reprocessing practices administered by an accredited body, such as the Canadian Standards Association (CSA).

Chain of Transmission: A model used to understand the infection process.

Chemical Indicator (CI): A sterilization monitoring assistive device used to monitor certain parameters of a sterilization process by means of a characteristic color change (e.g. chemically treated paper, pellet sealed in a glass tube, pressure-sensitive tape). A CI does not verify sterility, but does allow the detection of potential sterilization failures due to factors such as incorrect packaging, incorrect loading of the sterilizer, or equipment malfunction.

Chemiclave: A machine that sterilizes instruments with high-pressure, high-temperature water vapour, alcohol vapour and formaldehyde vapour (occasionally used in offices).

Chemisterilant: A chemical product that is used to achieve sterilization.

Cleaning: Physical removal of foreign (e.g., dust, soil) and organic (e.g., blood, secretions, excretions, microorganisms) materials. Cleaning physically removes microorganisms. It is accomplished with water, detergents and mechanical action. If the detergent used has microbial killing ability, microbial killing during the cleaning process may occur.

Client/Patient/Resident: Any person receiving care within a health care setting.

***Clostridium difficile* (C. difficile):** *Clostridium difficile* causes antibiotic-associated pseudomembranous colitis and is the most important cause of health care-associated infectious diarrhea. *C. difficile* produces hardy spores that are resistant to destruction by many chemicals used for cleaning and disinfection. Spores are shed in faeces, live in the environment for a long time, and may be transferred via the hands of health care workers.

Cohorting: The assignment of a geographic area such as a room or a patient care area to two or more clients/patients/residents who are either colonized or infected with the same microorganism, with staffing assignments restricted to the cohorted group of patients.

Cold Chain: The process used to maintain optimal conditions during the transport, storage and handling of vaccines.

Colonization: The presence and growth of a microorganism in or on a body with growth and multiplication but without tissue invasion or cellular injury or symptoms.

Complex Continuing Care (CCC): Continuing, medically complex and specialized services provided to both young and old, sometimes over extended periods of time. Such care also includes support to families who have palliative or respite care needs.

Compounded Sterile Preparations (CSP): Admixtures that are compounded using multiple sterile additives to create batch preparations (e.g., pooled admixtures, parenteral nutrition solutions, nuclear pharmaceuticals).

Construction: Major and minor facility activities that disturb or modify facility structures and systems and include such activities as renovations, maintenance and repair work.

Construction Clean: Cleaning performed at the end of a workday by construction workers that removes gross soil and dirt, construction materials and workplace hazards. Cleaning may include sweeping and vacuuming, but usually does not address horizontal surfaces or areas adjacent to the job site.

Constructor: A person who undertakes a construction or renovation project for the owner. A constructor can be, for example, a contractor, subcontractor, construction manager, and construction worker or trades person. The term also includes facility-hired staff who undertakes all or part of a construction, maintenance or renovation project.

Contact Precautions: Precautions that are used in addition to Routine Practices to reduce the risk of transmitting infectious agents via contact with an infectious person and/or the environment.

Contact Time: The defined time for which surfaces of the medical device are exposed to a

Abbreviations and Glossary used in IPAC Canada's Audit Toolkit and other Documents

chemical or thermal disinfection process to achieve the appropriate level of disinfection.

Contamination: The presence of an infectious agent on hands or on a surface, such as clothing, gowns, gloves, bedding, toys, surgical instruments, care equipment, dressings or other inanimate objects.

Continuum of Care: Across all health care sectors, including settings where emergency (including pre-hospital) care is provided, hospitals, complex continuing care, rehabilitation hospitals, long-term care homes, outpatient clinics, community health centres and clinics, physician offices, dental offices, offices of other health professionals, public health and home health care.

Contaminated/Soiled Laundry: Linen that has been used or worn and soiled by perspiration, body oils, etc. or contaminated with blood or other potentially infectious material.

Coroner's Case: A case being investigated by a coroner. This may include deaths that are sudden and unexpected, as well as some expected deaths warranting further investigation. A coroner's case usually requires an autopsy.

Critical Medical Devices: Medical equipment/devices that enter sterile tissues, including the vascular system (e.g. biopsy forceps, foot care equipment, dental hand pieces, etc.). Critical medical devices present a high risk of infection if the device is contaminated with any microorganisms, including bacterial spores. Reprocessing critical devices involves meticulous cleaning followed by sterilization.

Cytotoxic Waste: Waste cytotoxic drugs, including leftover or unused cytotoxic drugs and tubing, tissues, needles, gloves and any other items which have come into contact with a cytotoxic drug.

Dead-Leg: A one-way pipe or other plumbing component or system that has contained, contains, or likely will contain stagnant water.

Decontamination: The process of cleaning, followed by the inactivation of microorganisms, in order to render an object safe for handling.

Dedicated Equipment: Equipment/devices used on a single individual and not shared with other clients/patients/residents.

Dedicated Hand Washing Sink: A sink for cleaning soiled hands that is not used for any other purpose (e.g., cleaning of equipment, emptying of solutions).

Dental Health Care Personnel (DHCP): Refers to all paid and unpaid personnel in the dental health-care setting who might be occupationally exposed to infectious materials, including body substances and contaminated supplies, equipment, environmental surfaces, water, or air. DHCP include dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, dental laboratory technicians (in-office and commercial), students and trainees, contractual personnel, and other persons not directly involved in patient care but potentially exposed to infectious agents (e.g., administrative, clerical, housekeeping, maintenance, or volunteer personnel).

Detergent: An agent or formulation that can emulsify oil and suspend soil to facilitate cleaning. A detergent may contain surfactants that do not precipitate in hard water and may also contain protease enzymes (see *Enzymatic Cleaner*) and whitening agents. Low temperature detergents are specially formulated to clean in cold water.

Diluted Product: Cleaning product that is purchased ready-to-use (already diluted) or diluted in-house, preferably with an automated dispensing system.

Direct Care: Providing hands-on care (e.g., bathing, washing, turning client/patient/resident, changing clothes, continence care, dressing changes, care of open wounds/lesions, toileting).

Discharge/Vacancy Cleaning: The thorough cleaning of a client/patient/resident room or bed space following discharge, death or transfer of the client/patient/resident, to remove contaminating microorganisms that might be acquired by subsequent occupants and/or staff.

Disinfectant: A product that is used on medical devices or environmental surfaces that is

Abbreviations and Glossary used in IPAC Canada's Audit Toolkit and other Documents

designed to kill microorganisms, resulting in disinfection of the device/surface. Disinfectants are applied only to inanimate objects. Some products may have both cleaning and disinfecting abilities. Disinfectants require a DIN number from Health Canada.

Disinfection: The inactivation of disease-producing microorganisms. Disinfection does not destroy bacterial spores. Medical equipment/devices must be cleaned thoroughly before effective disinfection can take place.

Donor Breast Milk: Milk that comes from donors other than the newborn's mother. The only acceptable donor breast milk is pasteurized human donor milk (PHDM) from an accredited milk bank. The Canadian milk bank follows the guidelines set by the Human Milk Bank Association of North America (HMBANA). Donor breast milk is pooled from a maximum of four lactating women who have met rigid screening criteria that include a medical referral, physical exam and blood testing for HIV, HTLV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C and syphilis.

Double Cleaning: Repeating a cleaning regimen immediately after it has been done once. Double cleaning is not the same as cleaning twice per day. Double cleaning must be documented.

Double-Dipping: The practice of putting a used item (e.g., cloth, spatula, sponge) back into a clean solution (e.g., disinfectant, lotion, cream).

Droplet Precautions: Precautions that are used in addition to Routine Practices for clients/patients/residents known or suspected of having an infection that can be transmitted by large infectious droplets.

Droplet-Contact Precautions: A combination of Droplet and Contact precautions that are used in addition to Routine Practices for clients/patients/residents known or suspected of having an infection that can be transmitted by large infectious droplets AND via contact with an infectious person and/or the environment.

Drug Identification Number (DIN): In Canada, disinfectants are regulated as drugs under the Food and Drugs Act and Regulations. Disinfectant manufacturers must obtain a drug identification number (DIN) from Health Canada prior to marketing, which ensures that labelling and supporting data have been provided and that the product has undergone and passed a review of its formulation, labelling and instructions for use.

Electronic Equipment: Equipment used in diagnostic imaging and clinical practice, such as ultrasound transducers and probes, that require special cleaning and handling due to the variety of their design and the fragility of their construction.

Endoscope – Critical: Endoscopes used in the examination of critical spaces, such as joints and sterile cavities. Many of these endoscopes are rigid with no lumen. Examples of critical endoscopes are arthroscopes and laparoscopes.

Endoscope – Semicritical: Fiberoptic or video endoscopes used in the examination of the hollow viscera. These endoscopes generally invade only semicritical spaces, although some of their components might enter tissues or other critical spaces. Examples of semicritical endoscopes are laryngoscopes, nasopharyngeal endoscopes, transesophageal probes, colonoscopes, gastroscopes, duodenoscopes, sigmoidoscopes and enteroscopes.

Engineering Controls: Physical or mechanical measures put in place to reduce the risk of infection to staff or patients (e.g., heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems, room design, placement of hand washing sinks).

Environment of the Client/Patient/Resident: The immediate space around a client/patient/resident that may be touched by the client/patient/resident and may also be touched by the health care provider when providing care. In a single room, the client/patient/resident environment is the room. In a multi-bed room, the client/patient/resident environment is the area inside the individual's curtain. In an ambulatory setting, the client/patient/resident environment is the area that may come into contact with the client/patient/resident within their cubicle. In a nursery/neonatal setting, the patient environment includes the inside of the bassinette or

Abbreviations and Glossary used in IPAC Canada's Audit Toolkit and other Documents

incubator, as well as the equipment outside the bassinette or incubator used for that infant (e.g., ventilator, monitor).

Environmental Marking: A method to determine if effective environmental cleaning of surfaces and/or objects has taken place. Most commonly, a colourless solution which fluoresces under ultraviolet light is applied to surfaces prior to cleaning. Presence of the substance after cleaning indicates ineffective cleaning.

Environmental Surface: Surfaces that may be touched by a client/patient/resident and may also be touched by a health care provider when providing care. Environmental surfaces include equipment, medical devices, furniture (e.g., bed, chair, bedside table), telephone, privacy curtains and bathrooms.

Environment of the Patient: The immediate space around a patient that may be touched by the patient and may also be touched by the health care provider when providing care. In a single room, the patient environment is the room. In a multiple-bed room, the patient environment is the area inside the individual's curtain. In an ambulatory setting, the patient environment is the area that may come into contact with the patient within their cubicle. In a nursery/neonatal setting, the patient environment includes the inside of the bassinette or isolette, as well as the equipment outside the bassinette or isolette used for that newborn (e.g., ventilator, monitor).

Enzymatic Cleaner: A cleaning agent that contains protease enzymes that break down proteins such as blood, body fluids, secretions and excretions from surfaces and medical devices. Most enzymatic cleaners also contain detergents. Enzymatic cleaners are used to loosen and dissolve organic substances prior to reprocessing.

Extended Spectrum Beta-Lactamase (ESBL): Enzymes that may be produced by some strains of *Enterobacteriaceae* that hydrolyse all cephalosporins, including third-generation cephalosporins such as cefotaxime, ceftriaxone and ceftazidime, as well as aztreonam.

Exposure: An exposed person is someone who has been in such proximity to a case of novel respiratory infection that transmission is possible. There are various degrees of risk based on the type of exposure or the parameters of exposure.

Exposure Time: The defined period for which the critical variables are maintained within their specified tolerances in the sterilization chamber.

Expressed Human Milk (EHM): Breast milk is the optimal feeding choice for most newborns. At the same time, it is a body fluid and may potentially contain pathogens acquired both intrinsically (from the mother) and extrinsically (contaminated during collection and handling).

Eye Protection: A device that covers the eyes and is used by health care providers to protect the eyes when it is anticipated that a procedure or care activity is likely to generate splashes or sprays of blood, body fluids, secretions or excretions, or within two metres of a coughing client/patient/resident. Eye protection includes safety glasses, safety goggles, face shields and visors.

Facial Protection: Personal protective equipment that protect the mucous membranes of the eyes, nose and mouth from splashes or sprays of blood, body fluids, secretions or excretions. Facial protection may include a mask or respirator in conjunction with eye protection, or a face shield that covers eyes, nose and mouth.

FDA-Approved 3rd Party Reprocessor: An establishment (outside of a health care facility) that reprocesses single-use medical devices according to guidelines established by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. There are currently no approved 3rd party reprocessors in Canada.

First Responders: Health care providers in a prehospital care setting. This may include paramedics, police, fire fighters and other first responder services that operate emergency vehicles.

Fit-Test: A qualitative or quantitative method to evaluate the fit of a specific make, model and size of respirator on an individual. Fit-testing is to be done periodically, at least every two years and whenever there is a change in respirator face piece or the user's physical condition which

Abbreviations and Glossary used in IPAC Canada's Audit Toolkit and other Documents

could affect the respirator fit.

Foil Test: A simple test for ultrasonic cleaner efficacy, involving running the equipment while holding a piece of aluminum foil in the tank for up to 15 seconds. If foil surfaces are uniformly perforated, cleaning is effective.

Hand Care Program: A hand care program for staff is a key component of hand hygiene and includes hand care assessment; staff education; Occupational Health assessment if skin integrity is an issue; provision of hand moisturizing products; and provision of alcohol-based hand rub that contains an emollient.

Hand Hygiene: A general term referring to any action of hand cleaning. Hand hygiene relates to the removal of visible soil and removal or killing of transient microorganisms from the hands. Hand hygiene may be accomplished using an alcohol-based hand rub or soap and running water. Hand hygiene includes surgical hand antisepsis.

Handler: Individual who brings an animal to a health care setting for animal visitation, or a person who has trained the animal to obey him or her (e.g., pet owner).

Hand Washing: The physical removal of microorganisms from the hands using soap (plain or antimicrobial) and running water.

Hawthorne Effect: A short-term improvement caused by observing staff performance.

Health Care-associated Infection (HAI): An infection associated with the delivery of health care that was not present prior to receiving health care.

Health Care Environment: People and items which make up the care environment (e.g., objects, medical equipment, staff, clients/patients/residents) of a hospital, clinic or ambulatory setting, outside the immediate environment of the client/patient/resident.

Health Care Facility: A set of physical infrastructure elements supporting the delivery of health-related services (i.e., "the building"). A health care facility does not include a patient's home or physician/dentist/other health offices where health care may be provided.

Health Care Organization: Any facility, corporation, agency, association, consortium or company where health care is provided. This includes organizations where emergency care is provided, hospitals, complex continuing care, rehabilitation hospitals, long-term care homes, mental health facilities, outpatient clinics, community health centres and clinics, physician offices, dental offices, independent health facilities, out-of-hospital premises, offices of other health professionals, public health clinics and home health care.

Health Care Provider (HCP): Any person delivering hands-on care to a client/patient/resident. This includes, but is not limited to, the following: emergency service workers, physicians, dentists, nurses, midwives, respiratory therapists and other health professionals, personal support workers, clinical instructors, students and home health care workers. In some non-acute settings, volunteers might provide care and would be included as a health care provider.

Health Care Setting: Any location where health care is provided.

Health Care Worker: An individual who works in a health care organization, such as nurse, physician, dentist, nurse practitioner, paramedic and sometimes emergency first responder, allied health professional, unregulated health care worker, clinical instructor and student, housekeeping staff and volunteers. Volunteers are individuals who work without pay and are part of an organization's program delivery team. Health care workers have varying degrees of responsibility related to the work they do, depending on their level of education and their specific job/responsibilities.

High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) Filter: A filter with an efficiency of 99.97% in the removal of airborne particles 0.3 microns or larger in diameter.

High-Level Disinfectant: A chemical product that is used to achieve high-level disinfection.

Abbreviations and Glossary used in IPAC Canada's Audit Toolkit and other Documents

High-Level Disinfection (HLD): The level of disinfection required when processing semicritical medical devices. High-level disinfection processes destroy vegetative bacteria, mycobacteria, fungi and enveloped (lipid) and non-enveloped (non-lipid) viruses, but not necessarily bacterial spores. Medical devices must be thoroughly cleaned prior to high-level disinfection.

Hoarding: Pathological or compulsive hoarding is a specific type of behaviour characterized by severe cluttering of the person's home so that it is no longer able to function as a viable living space, causing significant distress or impairment of work or social life.

Home Care: The delivery of a wide range of health care and support services to clients/patients for health restoration, health promotion, health maintenance, respite, palliation and for prevention/delay in admission to long-term residential care. Home care is delivered where clients/patients reside (e.g., homes, retirement homes, group homes and hospices).

Hospital Clean: The measure of cleanliness routinely maintained in client/patient/resident care areas of the health care setting. Hospital Clean is a basic cleaning regimen with the addition of disinfection, increased frequency of cleaning, auditing and other infection control measures in client/patient/resident care areas.

Hospital-Grade Disinfectant: Products that have been approved for use in Canadian hospitals (e.g., cleaning products).

Hospital-Grade Disinfectant: A low-level disinfectant that has a drug identification number (DIN) from Health Canada indicating its approval for use in Canadian hospitals.

Hydrogen Peroxide Enhanced Action Formulation (HP-EAF): A formulation of hydrogen peroxide that contains surfactants, wetting agents and chelating agents. The resulting synergy makes it a powerful oxidizer that can rapidly achieve broad-spectrum disinfection for environmental surfaces and non-critical devices. Some formulations have sporicidal claims.

Hydrotherapy Equipment: Includes physiotherapy tanks (e.g., Hubbard tanks), jetted tubs, hot tubs, whirlpools, whirlpool spas and birthing tanks.

Immediate Use Steam Sterilization (IUSS): A special steam sterilization process designed and used for the emergency sterilization of surgical goods when routine sterilization cannot be done.² Also known as 'flash' sterilization.

Independent Health Facility: A health facility or a class of health facilities designated by the Minister under clause 4 (2) (b) of the *Independent Health Facilities Act*, R.S.O 1990, chapter I.3 (http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_90i03_e.htm), in which one or more members of the public receive services for or in respect of which facility fees are charged or paid.

Indicator: A chemical which reveals a change in one or more of the sterilization process parameters. Indicators do not verify sterility, but they do allow the detection of potential sterilization failures due to factors such as incorrect packaging, incorrect loading of the sterilizer, or equipment malfunction.

Infection: The entry and multiplication of an infectious agent in the tissues of the host. Asymptomatic or sub-clinical infection is an infectious process running a course similar to that of clinical disease but below the threshold of clinical symptoms. Symptomatic or clinical infection is one resulting in clinical signs and symptoms (disease).

Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC): Evidence-based practices and procedures that, when applied consistently in health care settings, can prevent or reduce the risk of transmission of microorganisms to health care providers, other patients and visitors.

Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Canada: A professional organization of persons engaged in IPAC activities in health care settings. IPAC Canada members include infection prevention and control professionals from a number of related specialties including nurses, epidemiologists, physicians, microbiology technologists, public health and industry. The IPAC Canada website is located at: <http://www.ipac-canada.org>.

Infectious Agent: A microorganism, i.e., a bacterium, fungus, parasite, virus or prion, which is

Abbreviations and Glossary used in IPAC Canada's Audit Toolkit and other Documents

capable of invading body tissues and multiplying.

Influenza-Like Illness (ILI): Acute onset of respiratory illness with fever and cough and with one or more of the following: sore throat, arthralgia, myalgia, or prostration. In children under 5, gastrointestinal symptoms may also be present. In individuals under 5 or 65 and older, fever may not be prominent.

Informal Caregivers: Individuals who provide care/support to clients/patients in the home, but are unpaid and are not associated with an organization, e.g., relatives, friends, neighbours.

Instrument Washer: A machine that removes soil and cleans medical/dental devices prior to high-level disinfection or sterilization.

Laundering: The sequence of activities, including preparation, washing and drying, undertaken to make a new or soiled multiple-use textile clean, dry and fit for service.

Laundry: Clothes or linens that have been or are to be laundered.

Legionella: A genus of gram-negative bacteria found in soil, water and dust. It can cause pneumonia when acquired during inhalation of contaminated aerosols.

Licensed Reprocessor: A facility licensed by a regulatory authority (e.g., government agency) to reprocess medical equipment/devices to the same quality system requirements as manufacturers of the equipment/device, resulting in a standard that ensures the equipment/device is safe and performs as originally intended.

Linen: Articles made, or originally made, of linen (e.g., sheets, pillowcases, tablecloths, napkins).

Loaned Equipment: Medical equipment/devices used in more than one facility, including borrowed, shared or consigned equipment/devices, which are used on patients/clients/residents. Reprocessing is carried out at both loaning and receiving sites. Loaned equipment may also be manufacturer-owned and loaned to multiple health care facilities.

Long-Term Care (LTC): A broad range of personal care, support and health services provided to people who have limitations that prevent them from full participation in the activities of daily living. The people who use long-term care services are usually the elderly, people with disabilities and people who have a chronic or prolonged illness.

Low-Level Disinfectant (LLD): A chemical product used to achieve low-level disinfection.

Low-Level Disinfection (LLD): Level of disinfection required when processing non-invasive medical equipment (i.e., non-critical equipment) and some environmental surfaces. Equipment and surfaces must be thoroughly cleaned prior to low-level disinfection. Low-level disinfection kills vegetative ('live') bacteria, such as staphylococci and enterococci, and enveloped virus such as HIV, hepatitis and influenza. LLD does not kill fungi, TB, spores or enveloped viruses (e.g., norovirus).

Manufacturer: Any person, partnership or incorporated association that manufactures and sells medical equipment/devices under its own name or under a trade mark, design, trade name or other name or mark owned or controlled by it.

Manufacturer's Instructions: The written directions provided by the manufacturer or distributor of a product that contain the necessary information for the safe and effective use and reprocessing of the product.

Mask: A device that covers the nose and mouth, is secured in the back and is used by health care providers to protect the mucous membranes of the nose and mouth.

Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS): A document that contains information on the potential hazards (health, fire, reactivity and environmental) and how to work safely with a chemical product. It also contains information on the use, storage, handling and emergency procedures all related to the hazards of the material. MSDSs are prepared by the supplier or manufacturer of the material.

Abbreviations and Glossary used in IPAC Canada's Audit Toolkit and other Documents

Medical Equipment/Device: Any instrument, apparatus, appliance, material, or other article, whether used alone or in combination, intended by the manufacturer to be used for human beings for the purpose of diagnosis, prevention, monitoring, treatment or alleviation of disease, injury or handicap; investigation, replacement, or modification of the anatomy or of a physiological process; or control of conception.

Medical-Grade: Suitable for use in health care, generally conforming to specific standards and specifications.

Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA): MRSA is a strain of *Staphylococcus aureus* that is resistant to beta-lactam antibiotics, such as penicillin, cloxacillin and cephalosporins. MRSA has been associated with health care-associated infections and outbreaks.

Minimum Effective Concentration (MEC): The lowest concentration of active ingredient necessary to meet the label claim of a high-level disinfectant/sterilant.

Mobile Equipment: Equipment used to transport clients/patients/residents or to assist with transport, such as wheelchairs, stretchers and walkers.

Mode of Transmission: The method by which infectious agents spread from one person to another (e.g., contact, droplet or airborne routes).

Negative Pressure: Exhausting air from the containment area at a rate sufficient to create and continuously maintain negative (lower) air pressure within that area relative to adjacent spaces. Negative pressure ensures that any air that leaks through the physical barrier between the areas will be "clean" air flowing into containment, as opposed to "dirty" air flowing out.

Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU): A unit of a hospital specializing in the care of ill or premature newborn infants.

N95 Respirator: A personal protective device that is worn on the face and covers the nose and mouth to reduce the wearer's risk of inhaling airborne particles. A NIOSH-certified N95 respirator filters particles one micron in size, has 95% filter efficiency and provides a tight facial seal with less than 10% leak.

Noncritical Medical Equipment/Device: Equipment/device that either touches only intact skin (but not mucous membranes) or does not directly touch the client/patient/resident. Reprocessing of noncritical equipment/devices involves cleaning and may also require low-level disinfection (e.g., blood pressure cuffs, stethoscopes).

Nosocomial: Arising while a patient is in a hospital or as a result of being in a hospital. Denoting a new disorder (unrelated to the patient's primary condition) associated with being in a hospital.

Novel Respiratory Infection: An illness that causes respiratory symptoms (e.g., fever, cough) where the etiologic agent and/or epidemiology of the disease have not previously been known or described.

Occupational Health and Safety (OHS): Preventive and therapeutic health services in the workplace provided by trained occupational health professionals, e.g., nurses, hygienists, physicians.

Operational Staff: Prehospital care workers including paramedics, firefighters, police and other first responders who regularly have patient contact and or provide patient care.

Operatory: A room or other area with special equipment and facilities, as for dental surgery.

Organizational Risk Assessment: An evaluation done by the organization or facility in order to implement controls to mitigate identified hazards.

Outbreak Management Team (OMT): A multidisciplinary committee that has the authority to implement changes in practice or take other actions that are required to control an outbreak. The OMT should be chaired by Infection Prevention and Control and include persons with the authority to make decisions, e.g., upper level management (for decisions such as those that impact the budget or closure of the unit(s)/setting). Other key stakeholders would include:

Abbreviations and Glossary used in IPAC Canada's Audit Toolkit and other Documents

unit/department heads, medical staff, direct care givers, auxiliary staff, Public Relations, Dietary, Environmental Services/Housekeeping, Pharmacy, Occupational Health & Safety, Public Health and others as required. The OMT varies from setting to setting, depending on human resources available.

Outcome Surveillance: Surveillance used to measure client/patient/resident outcomes (changes in the client/patient/resident's health status that can be attributed to preceding care and service). An example of outcome surveillance related to infection prevention and control is surveillance of infection rates. Outcome surveillance reflects the efficacy of the infection prevention and control program in protecting clients/patients/residents, health care providers and visitors from health care-associated infections while decreasing costs from infections.

Out-of-Hospital Premises (OHP): Premises that perform procedures using specified types of anaesthesia, such as general anaesthesia, sedation, most types of regional anaesthesia and, in some cases, local anaesthesia. OHP procedures include, but are not limited to cosmetic surgery, endoscopy and interventional pain management. For more information see Ontario Regulation 114/94 or visit www.cpso.on.ca.

Packaging: A step in the sterilization process in which a medical device is enclosed in materials or a container designed to allow the penetration and removal of the sterilant during sterilization and protect the device from contamination and other damage following sterilization and during storage.

Pasteurization: A high-level disinfection process using hot water at a temperature of 75°C for a contact time of at least 30 minutes.

Personal Pet: An animal kept by an individual for pleasure or companionship.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Clothing or equipment worn by staff for protection against hazards.

Physical Monitor: A device that monitors the physical parameters of a sterilizer, such as time, temperature and pressure.

Point-of-Care: The place where three elements occur together: the client/patient/resident, the health care provider and care or treatment involving client/patient/resident contact.

Portal of Entry: The anatomic site at which microorganisms get into the body, i.e., mucous membranes of nose, mouth and broken skin.

Portal of Exit: The anatomic site at which microorganisms leave the body, i.e., secretions and excretions that exit the respiratory tract, GI tract or broken skin.

Process Challenge Device (PCD): A test device intended to provide a challenge to the sterilization process that is equal to, or greater than, the challenge posed by the most difficult item routinely processed.

Process Control: The management of processes and procedures that affect the quality of products and services, with the goal of ensuring that processes and procedures are performed consistently and as they were intended to be performed in order to produce predictable output.

were intended to be performed in order to produce predictable output. **Process Surveillance:** Surveillance used to assess or measure client/patient/resident processes (things done to or for a client/patient/resident during their encounter with the health care system). An example of process surveillance related to infection prevention and control is planned audits to verify that procedures and/or standards of practice are being followed.

Pre-Hospital Care: Acute emergency client/patient/resident assessment and care delivered in an uncontrolled environment by designated practitioners, performing delegated medical acts at the entry to the health care continuum.

Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee (PIDAC): A multidisciplinary scientific advisory body that provides to the Chief Medical Officer of Health evidence-based advice regarding multiple aspects of infectious disease identification, prevention and control. More information is available at: <http://www.pidac.ca>.

Abbreviations and Glossary used in IPAC Canada's Audit Toolkit and other Documents

Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC): A national agency which promotes improvement in the health status of Canadians through public health action and the development of national guidelines. The PHAC website is located at: http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/new_e.html.

Public Health Ontario (PHO): Public Health Ontario is the operating name for OAHPP. The PHO website is located at: <http://www.oahpp.ca>.

Qualification in Reprocessing: At minimum, a certificate indicating successful completion of a recognized training course in reprocessing medical equipment.

Quality Monitoring: A system to provide assurance that sterilization practices are providing the highest possible degree of safety. A quality system includes written policies and procedures that are regularly reviewed, updated and monitored; identifies staff responsibility, qualifications and ongoing competence; and includes processes to measure and monitor installation, operational and performance qualifications, including routine daily monitoring and documentation.

Reprocessing: The steps performed to prepare used medical equipment/devices for use (e.g., disassembly, lubrication, wrapping, cleaning, disinfection/sterilization and reassembly).

Reservoir: An animate or inanimate source where microorganisms can survive and multiply (e.g., water, food, people).

Residential Animal: An animal that lives in the health care setting (e.g., nursing home, hospice) and is cared for by staff in the health care setting.

Respiratory Etiquette: Personal practices that help prevent the spread of bacteria and viruses that cause acute respiratory infections (e.g., coughing or sneezing into a tissue or into one's sleeve or elbow, care when disposing of tissues and the performance of hand hygiene). This is also referred to as '*respiratory hygiene*' or '*cough etiquette*'.

Restricted Area: Area of operating room suite where surgical attire and face mask is required; and includes any area where scrub personnel are present and/or sterile supplies are opened, for example, it includes scrub sink area while a surgical scrub is in progress.

Reusable: A term given by the manufacturer of medical devices that allows it, through the selection of materials and/or components, to be re-used.

Risk Assessment: An evaluation of the interaction between the health care worker, the client/patient/resident and the client/patient/resident environment to assess and analyze the potential for exposure to an infectious disease/process and to identify risks of transmission.

Room Pressure Monitor: A wall-mounted panel and sensor that continuously monitors room pressure and provides instant notification if the pressurization fails or fluctuates.

Routine Practices (RP): The system of infection prevention and control practices recommended by the Public Health Agency of Canada to be used with all clients/patients/residents during all care to prevent and control transmission of microorganisms in all health care settings.

Safety Engineered Medical Device: A non-needle sharp or a needle device used for withdrawing body fluids, accessing a vein or artery, or administering medications or other fluids, with a built-in safety feature or mechanism that effectively reduces exposure incident risk. Safety engineered devices shall be licensed by Health Canada.

Seal-Check: A procedure that the health care provider must perform each time an N95 respirator is worn to ensure it fits the wearer's face correctly to provide adequate respiratory protection. The health care provider is to receive training on how to perform a seal-check correctly.

Semicritical Medical Device: Medical device that comes in contact with nonintact skin or mucous membranes but ordinarily does not penetrate them (e.g., respiratory therapy equipment, transrectal probes, specula). Reprocessing semicritical devices involves meticulous cleaning followed by, at a minimum, high-level disinfection.

Semi-Restricted Area: Area of operating room suite where surgical attire (including cap/hood) is required; and includes support area of the suite, i.e., clean and sterile storage areas, corridors

Abbreviations and Glossary used in IPAC Canada's Audit Toolkit and other Documents

leading to theatres, etc.

Sentinel Event: A colonization/infection in which the occurrence of perhaps even a single case may signal the need to re-examine preventive practices.

Sharps: Objects capable of causing punctures or cuts (e.g., needles, syringes, blades, clinical glass).

Single Patient Use: Medical equipment/device that may be used on a single client/patient/resident and may be reused on the same client/patient/resident, but may not be used on other clients/patients/residents.

Single-Use/Disposable: Medical/dental device designated by the manufacturer for single-use only. Single-use devices must not be reprocessed except by a provincial/facility-based, validated protocol or an approved and FDA-cleared 3rd party reprocessor.

Staff: Anyone conducting activities in settings where health care is provided, including but not limited to, health care providers.

Staff Cohorting: The practice of assigning specified health care providers to care only for clients/patients/residents known to be colonized or infected with the same microorganism. These health care providers would not participate in the care of clients/patients/residents who are not colonized or infected with that microorganism.

Sterilant: A chemical product that is used to achieve sterilization.

Sterilization: The level of reprocessing required when processing critical medical devices. Sterilization results in the destruction of all forms of microbial life including bacteria, viruses, spores and fungi. Medical devices must be cleaned thoroughly before effective sterilization can take place.

Surge Capacity: Sufficient capacity or appropriate resources for day-to-day operation and an ability to redirect resources in a time of need. This includes providing additional environmental cleaning (materials, human resources) when required during an outbreak.

Surgical Hand Antisepsis: The preparation of hands for surgery using either alcohol-based hand scrub or antimicrobial soap and water, preferably with residual activity.

Surgical Hand Rub: Surgical hand preparation with an alcohol-based hand rub that has sustained activity.

Surgical Hand Scrub: Surgical hand preparation with water and antimicrobial soap that has sustained activity.

Susceptible Host: An individual who is at risk for infection.

Terminal Cleaning: The thorough cleaning of a client/patient/resident room or bed space following discharge, death or transfer of the client/patient/resident, in order to remove contaminating microorganisms that might be acquired by subsequent occupants and/or staff. In some instances, terminal cleaning might be used once some types of Additional Precautions have been discontinued.

Therapeutic Animal: An animal trained and certified for animal-assisted therapy.

Topping-up: Refilling a partially filled container with fresh solution or product.

Ultrasonic Cleaner/Washer: A machine that cleans medical devices by the cavitations produced by ultrasound waves.

Unrestricted Area: Area of operating room suite where street clothes are permitted; includes change area and a control point or desk to monitor and direct access; may include pre-op holding area, staff lounge, booking office and/or manager's office.

Vancomycin-Resistant Enterococci (VRE): VRE are strains of *Enterococcus faecium* or *Enterococcus faecalis* that are resistant to vancomycin and/or contain the resistance genes *vanA* or *vanB*. VRE has been associated with health care-associated infections and outbreaks.

Abbreviations and Glossary used in IPAC Canada's Audit Toolkit and other Documents

Vertical Transmission: The transmission of an infection from mother to child during pregnancy or parturition.

Visiting Animal: An animal that is not a residential animal.

Visitor: Any person in the health care organization who is not under the direct control of the employer.

Walk-off Mat: A specially designed mat that is placed outside a construction area for the removal of contaminants from the footwear of contractors. Walk-off mats are placed such that both feet will be placed on the mat(s) prior to leaving a construction area.

Washer-Disinfector: A machine that removes soil and cleans and disinfects medical devices prior to high-level disinfection or sterilization.

Washer-Sterilizer: A machine that washes and sterilizes medical devices. Saturated steam under pressure is the sterilizing agent. If used as a sterilizer, quality processes must be observed as with all sterilization procedures (e.g., use of chemical and biologic monitors, record-keeping, wrapping, drying).

Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS): The Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) is Canada's national hazard communication standard. The key elements of the system are cautionary labelling of containers of WHMIS 'controlled products', the provision of Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs) and staff education and training programs.

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