

Coronavirus/COVID-19 Webinar: Risk Mitigation Efforts Follow-Up Questions & Answers

What is/are recommended cleaning procedures for a facility?

This is a difficult question to answer not knowing the type of facility and where in the facility you are referring. In general, you should clean in seven steps.

1. Dry Cleaning – the removal of gross soils
2. Pre-wash or first rinse – remove visible soils with water
3. Soap and scour
4. Post rinse and inspection
5. Assembly – verification of cleaner removal
6. Inspection – to ensure equipment is free of residue
7. Sanitize

The cleaning step should employ a general-purpose cleaner effective in removing dirt/grease/etc. mixed in accordance to the manufacturer's directions for cleaning. The sanitizing step should be done with an approved disinfectant for the coronavirus mixed in accordance to the manufacturers' directions for disinfection.

Should we provide PPE for our employees? What types are effective? No mask, except n95, is effective for the control of SARS-CoV-2 virus particles. Plus, the use of a mask would only protect the employees from the expulsion of the virus within 6 feet. Employer provided n95 masks would also need to adhere to OSHA requirements for the proper use, monitoring, and fit testing of said masks. Some companies are issuing gloves to their workforce but from our experience, gloves provide a false sense of security and may actually help spread the virus do to improper use.

Best advice is to practice social separation, wash your hands effectively, and employ a more rigorous cleaning of all breakrooms, lunchrooms, and bathrooms.

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Should/When should we exclude workers or visitors from the workspace?

Your GMPs should advise workers to not come to work exhibiting any signs of illness and to leave work when feeling ill. Supervisors should be trained on the spotting of ill workers. Workers should also be subject to screening when returning from a trip to a location experiencing an outbreak. With the current virus situation, visitors to your facility should be tightly controlled to one location in the office which is easily cleaned after their visit. Their interaction should be with limited individuals and only after they have signed off on their current health along with their trips as discussed above. Contractors should follow the same policy as visitors.

Please tell me more about the Capjem product certification? The Capjem Certification of product conformance is a useful tool to provide your customers in assurance that the risk of the virus has been effectively mitigated at your facility and that your product poses no risk. Please refer to the Capjem flyer for more details.

What is a GMP vs a GHP? A GMP is a “Good Manufacturing Practice” which entails methods, SOPs, SSOPs, and work instructions for the overall manufacturing of a product at your facility which is generally employed at similar manufacturing facilities. GHPs “General Hygiene Practices” are a type of GMP which define specific principles and procedures used to provide effective cleaning and sanitation of your employees and facility.

What is the right way to wash hands? Preferred method is 20-25 seconds of washing and scrubbing with an effective soap. Capjem recommends a “Double Wash” or “Wash, Rinse, Repeat” washing technique to ensure the virus is effectively removed from your hands.

What is the overall risk of the virus to my business? The answer depends on a lot of variables. At this point Capjem rates the overall potential risk to business as severe with the actual risk being labeled as medium/high. Capjem strongly encourages all business to evaluate their current practices and procedures to effectively handle an issue before it arises.



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