**Commode Cleaning – audit**

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| **Audit tool - Commodes** |
| **Outcome criteria:** | **Commode decontamination:**All parts of the commode are visibly clean including the underneath with no blood, body fluids substances, dust, dirt, debris or spillages. | **Commode location:** □ Sluice□ Resident’s room□ OtherComments:  |
| **Statement:**“All commodes are effectively and appropriately decontaminated after every use” | **1) The following areas are visibly clean (check the commode):**□ Back rest□ Arm rests□ Top of seat□ Underneath of seat□ Frame□ Foot rest□ Wheels\*All areas must be clean to indicate infection control compliance | **Compliant (please tick):** |
| Yes | No |
| Comments; discussed with appropriate staff; learning outcomes: |
| **2) The following areas are visibly intact and in good condition (check the commode):**□ Back rest□ Arm rests□ Top of seat□ Underneath of seat□ Frame□ Foot rest□ Wheels\*All areas must be intact and in good condition to indicate infection control compliance | **Compliant (please tick):** |
| Yes | No |
| Comments (e.g. item to be fixed or replaced); discussed with appropriate staff; learning outcomes: |
| **3) A system has been used to identify that the commode is clean**What system is in place:□ Green tape□ Seat up□ Other – please specify: | **Compliant (please tick):** |
| Yes | No |
| Comments; discussed with appropriate staff; learning outcomes: |

**References:**

NHS National Patient Safety Agency (2010): The National Specifications for Cleanliness: Guidance on setting and measuring performance outcomes in **care homes**:

* Commodes are a number 1 ‘key element’ in terms of cleaning/audit.
* Commodes are ‘high risk’ items of equipment which must be cleaned with regular frequency
* Contact points of the commode - including underside must be visibly clean with no blood and body substances, dust, dirt, debris or spillages. This is standard.
* Contact points must be cleaned after each use with one full clean daily: Care assistants must clean commodes after each use; Cleaners must clean commodes 1 x daily
* Colour coded items should be used for cleaning
* Key elements such as commode cleaning form the basis of audit. Routine audits should be carried out regularly (daily or decided locally) with clear allocation of responsibility; managerial audit should be carried out weekly

DOH (2013): Prevention and Control of Infection in Care Homes – an information resource.

Cleaning method for commodes:

* Clean with warm water and detergent and dry after each use. During outbreaks of infection commodes should be allocated to a single resident and should be decontaminated regularly with 1000ppm chlorine releasing agent.

Bucior, H; Cochrane, J (2010): Lifting the lid: a clinical audit on commode cleaning.

Available at: <https://core.ac.uk/download/files/162/4149098.pdf>