

## Commode Cleaning – audit

Audit tool - Commodes			
<b>Outcome criteria:</b>	<b>Commode decontamination:</b>  All parts of the commode are visibly clean including the underneath with no blood, body fluids substances, dust, dirt, debris or spillages.	<b>Commode location:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Sluice <input type="checkbox"/> Resident's room <input type="checkbox"/> Other Comments:	
<b>Statement:</b>  "All commodes are effectively and appropriately decontaminated after every use"	<b>1) The following areas are visibly clean (check the commode):</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Back rest <input type="checkbox"/> Arm rests <input type="checkbox"/> Top of seat <input type="checkbox"/> Underneath of seat <input type="checkbox"/> Frame <input type="checkbox"/> Foot rest <input type="checkbox"/> Wheels  *All areas must be clean to indicate infection control compliance	<b>Compliant (please tick):</b>	
		Yes	No
	<b>2) The following areas are visibly intact and in good condition (check the commode):</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Back rest <input type="checkbox"/> Arm rests <input type="checkbox"/> Top of seat <input type="checkbox"/> Underneath of seat <input type="checkbox"/> Frame <input type="checkbox"/> Foot rest <input type="checkbox"/> Wheels  *All areas must be intact and in good condition to indicate infection control compliance	<b>Compliant (please tick):</b>	
		Yes	No
	<b>3) A system has been used to identify that the commode is clean</b>  What system is in place: <input type="checkbox"/> Green tape <input type="checkbox"/> Seat up <input type="checkbox"/> Other – please specify:	<b>Compliant (please tick):</b>	
		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>