



Suspected Communicable Disease

Guidelines for cleaning crew

The following are guidelines for cleaning crew who have to clean an arriving aircraft with a suspected case of communicable disease.

During an outbreak of a specific communicable disease, the World Health Organization (WHO) or member states, in collaboration with IATA, may modify or add further procedures to these guidelines.

1. Wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) recommended by your national public health authority. Note that PPE requires appropriate training before use.
2. Remove and discard gloves if they become soiled or damaged, and after cleaning.
3. Use only cleaning agents and disinfectants that have been approved by aircraft manufacturers at recommended concentrations and contact times.
4. Begin the cleaning at the top (light and air controls) and proceed downward progressively working from clean to dirty areas.
5. Surfaces to be cleaned
 - a) Affected seat, adjacent seats same row, back of the seats in the row in front,
 - Light and air controls
 - Adjacent walls and windows
 - Seatbacks (the plastic and/or metal part)
 - Individual video monitor
 - Tray tables – Armrests
 - Remove seat pocket contents and replace. Safety Briefing Card can be cleaned with the approved disinfectant
 - b) In the lavatory(ies) used by the sick traveler:
 - door handle, locking device, faucet, wash basin, adjacent walls and counter and toilet seat

* In exceptional circumstances public health authorities may require additional cleaning.



6. Disinfection of upholstery, carpets, or storage compartments is only indicated when they have been soiled by body fluids. In such cases, use absorption agent first if required, clean any visible soil and disinfect before vacuuming to eliminate the risk of re-aerosolization.
7. Wash hands with soap and water immediately after PPE is removed. An alcohol-based hand sanitizer may be used as an alternative if the hands are not visibly soiled.
8. Dispose of soiled material and PPE in a biohazard bag if one is available. If not, place in an intact plastic bag, seal it, and label it as biohazard.
9. Do not use compressed air. It might re-aerosolize infectious material.