**Cleaning and Disinfection of Laboratory Areas Used by**

**Persons Confirmed with COVID-19**

Updated: September 17, 2020

This cleaning and disinfection procedure provides the research community with direction to follow in the case of confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis. Custodial staff are available to provide trash removal and floor cleaning in research areas and are also available to clean affected publicly accessible areas such as restrooms, common areas or conference rooms.

Laboratory personnel are responsible for cleaning and disinfection of laboratory areas. Alternatively, ServiceMaster Restore of Charlottesville (434-293-3366 or 434-422-6401) is available to provide professional laboratory cleaning and disinfection services. Departments should contact the vendor directly to coordinate services and provide a departmental issued purchase order.

**Timing & Access Restriction**

* Immediately close off any rooms known to be occupied by COVID-19 positive person(s) within the previous 48 hours.
* Post signs alerting others that room(s) is closed to entry until further notice.
* Wait 24 hours, or as long as practical, prior to engaging in cleaning and disinfection.
* CDC guidance as of 10 September 2020 states: if more than seven days have passed since person confirmed to have COVID-19 has been in the space, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary.

**COVID-19 Cleaning and Disinfecting Standard Operating Procedures**

* Prior to beginning, determine what surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected. Only hard surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected, focusing especially on frequently touched surfaces. Items such as papers, books, and personal belongings should remain undisturbed for 72 hours. Floors should be dust mopped and then wet mopped with a neutral cleaner or disinfectant cleaner. Custodial services are available to support floor cleaning requests if authorized and escorted by laboratory personnel.
* Gather Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):
  + Disposable gloves.
  + Disposable gown or laboratory coat to protect clothing.
  + Eye protection and/or face shields (if available) to protect against chemical disinfectant exposure.
  + Face covering ([UVA Face Cover Policy](https://uvapolicy.virginia.edu/policy/SEC-045#:~:text=Face%20Coverings%3A%20All%20students%2C%20faculty,apartments%2C%20or%20individual%20offices).))
* Gather all necessary cleaning products, such as paper towels, general purpose cleaner or soap and water, plus an [EPA-approved disinfectant against COVID-19](https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2-covid-19) such as Cavicide, Oxivir Tb, diluted bleach solutions, etc.
* Put on PPE and avoid touching face at all times.
* Ensure signage is in place alerting others that area is closed.
* If possible, open outside doors and windows to increase circulation in the area.
* Clean areas that have build-up or appear to feel dirty or dusty with general cleaner or soap and water. Follow all product label directions for safe handling and application.
* Follow manufacturer’s directions to apply [EPA-approved disinfectant](https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2-covid-19) on all high touch points such as doorknobs, light switches, benchtops, equipment/instrumentation, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, faucets, sinks, desks, chairs and similar items that may have been touched by COVID-19 positive persons.
* Leave the EPA-approved disinfectant on surfaces for the time described on the product label.

**Post Cleaning and Disinfection**

* Close all outside doors and windows.
* Carefully remove all PPE by following safe removal techniques and avoiding touching exterior of items.
* Clean eye protection and face shield following use. Wash cloth face covering and lab coat.
* Place used gloves, disposable gown, and disposable mask in trash bag. Securely close bag and place in centralized location for custodial staff to remove.
* Wash hands thoroughly for at least 20 seconds with soap and warm water.
* Remove room closure signs.

**References and Resources**

* [UVA Facilities Management Standard Operation Procedures for Cleaning and Disinfecting Areas Used by Persons Suspected / Confirmed to have Covid-19](https://www.fm.virginia.edu/docs/operations/custodial/UVACustodialServicesSOP-COVID-19.pdf)
* <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html>
* <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-ihe-response.html>
* <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>
* <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/reopen-guidance.html>
* <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/using-ppe.html>
* <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cleaning-disinfection.html>
* <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2-covid-19>