

## GUIDELINES FOR DECONTAMINATION

### Entry and exit procedures

#### Why have entry and exit procedures?

Disease organisms may be introduced to a property or removed from it by the movement of persons and equipment. Following these procedures will minimise the potential for these occurrences.

These procedures are applicable for all situations where personnel (with small sized equipment, diagnostic materials and ancillary materials) have to enter a property for surveillance of disease or to undertake activities on an Infected or Suspect place.

It also applies to property owners and employees etc who need to enter or exit a restricted place.

The equipment to perform this procedure can be carried in one large storage box and a 20 litre water container for rapid deployment and transportability.

#### Equipment

1. You will need the following equipment:

- Ground Sheet or tarpaulin approx 1m x 1m
- 4 tent pegs to secure ground sheet
- Multiple pairs disposable overalls (2 per person to be decontaminated)
- Pair gumboots per person, in good repair and with easy clean treads
- 10 sturdy garbage bags
- Pack quality clip seal bags, A4 size
- Pack of disposable examination gloves (latex or nitrile) or heavy-duty reusable nitrile gloves (2 pr/person)
- Roll of duct tape
- 3 buckets, at least 10 litres each
- Foot bath – large size & fracture resistant
- Small screw driver or 150mm nail for cleaning boots
- Scrubbing brush and nail brush
- 500ml hand sprayer x 2
- Water – minimum 20 litres

- TriGene Advance: distributed by Ethical Agents, available from most Veterinary practices
- Chlorhexidine disinfectant, eg. Savlon or Hibitane. Preparations vary from 0.75% to 5% liquid concentrates, or other suitable disinfectant e.g. bleach or Dettol
- Detergent – e.g. a quality dishwashing liquid such as Morning Fresh or Palmolive or a commercial detergent
- Soap.

#### Warnings

- For safety information on disinfectants, see Material Safety Data Sheets.
- Do not take vehicles onto an infected property.
- Do not take bulk supplies of resources onto property. Only take on those resources necessary to perform duties or those that can be disinfected off again.
- Equipment which cannot be decontaminated properly after entry to a property, must remain on site or be disposed of safely.
- Do not use chemicals for personal decontamination if they are not registered for use on skin; e.g. Virkon.
- Set up the decontamination site prior to entering the property. Do not re-enter a vehicle or the clean area until decontaminated adequately.

If you suspect you have been exposed to Equine Influenza, do not have contact with other susceptible equines for 24 hours or until cleared to do so by MAF.

**Call MAF on 0800 80 99 66**

## Disinfection guidelines

- Liberal washing with soap or detergent and uncontaminated running water can physically remove the bulk of all infectious agents and is a valuable disinfection technique.
  - Water for cleaning and disinfection must be uncontaminated. Water from a bore or reticulated supplies would be satisfactory.
  - Clean equipment and boots before disinfection as organic matter may inactivate some disinfectants.
  - Suggested disinfection agents, for non-personal use:
    - TriGene Advance
    - Soaps, detergents and chlorhexidine are effective disinfectants against many viruses and bacteria. However, mixing soaps or detergents with chlorhexidine will inactivate them.
  - Suggested disinfection agents, for personal use:
    - Liberal washing with soap or detergent and clean, (preferably running) water
    - Dettol solution at recommended rates
    - Chlorhexidine solutions formulated for personal use.
  - Allow sufficient contact time for disinfectants to work. Contact time (time disinfectant needs to be in contact with a surface for the most effective disinfection) is 10 minutes for most disinfectants.
  - Double bagging should be used to remove most potentially contaminated gear and samples off the property. To double bag, place the material in a bag, exclude air, seal the bag, then decontaminate the bag with TriGene Advance, place in a second bag, exclude excess air, seal it and decontaminate the second bag with TriGene Advance.
3. Spread the drop sheet on the ground secure with tent pegs. This sheet will be designated as the disinfection site.
  4. On the "dirty" side (dirty zone) of the plastic sheet or close by, place:
    - a. One container of disinfectant solution for personal disinfection.
    - b. At least one container (eg. tub/footbath and/or bucket) and a small spray pack of disinfectant for disinfection of other materials.
    - c. A minimum of 5 strong garbage bags.
    - d. 5 or more clip seal type bags to double bag samples and single bag paperwork that need to be taken off.
    - e. Nail and scrubbing brushes.
    - f. 10 litres of water for gross decontamination if you will not be able to grossly decontaminate elsewhere on the property.
  5. On the "clean" side (clean zone), have your car, clean clothes (in boot), spray pack of suitable disinfectant and soap and a bucket of clean water for final rinse off.
    - a. Remove excess clothing, even down to underwear (stop at the underwear!) and put on disposable overalls over remaining clothes.
    - b. Put on rubber boots.
    - c. Don gloves. (1 pair heavy-duty nitrile or 2 pairs of disposable and take spares in a sealed plastic bag). Seal your gloves to the disposable overalls or waterproofs with duct tape if appropriate.
    - d. Put on protective eye equipment or put in a bag for later donning on site when needed.
    - e. Disinfect boots.
    - f. Wash or spray disinfectant on all tools taken onto the property.
    - g. Place mobile phone in a clip seal bag and disinfect bag. The mobile phone is to stay in the bag and be used while still in the bag. Use a large bag for flip open phones.

## Entry procedure

1. Select and set up a **personal decontamination site** before entering the property. The decontamination site should be close to the property entrance/exit or a clean zone of the property from which you are able to exit without reentering a contaminated area ("dirty zone").
2. Set up a site with a defined "dirty" and "clean" area that allows you to decontaminate yourself plus any gear necessary from the dirty zone to the clean zone. A small (approx. 1m<sup>2</sup>) drop sheet or large plastic rubbish bag can be used as a "clean" base to work on.
6. Cross into the "dirty" area.

## **Departure procedure.**

### **Initial Wash down.**

1. Go to the **gross wash-down/cleaning site** to remove gross contamination from yourself, including your hair. This should be away from the personal disinfection site.
2. Use soap/detergent and clean water to physically remove as much contamination as possible from water impermeable equipment (e.g. gumboots and gloves), tools or equipment you have used on the property. Use scrubbing brush if necessary.
3. Move to the personal decontamination site.

### **Disinfection:**

NOTE: Leave contaminated gear on the property if it cannot be decontaminated adequately.

### **Equipment and clothing**

1. Double bag samples and single bag paperwork in clip seal bags, disinfect the bags and move them to the clean side.  
(NB: Don't contaminate samples with disinfectant)
2. Disinfect mobile phone bag, metal, plastic and non-porous equipment to the clean side.
3. Stand to the dirty zone side of the plastic sheet or stand in the footbath.
4. If double gloved, take off one pair of gloves and place them in a rubbish bag.
5. Scrub your water impermeable equipment with the water and disinfectant
6. Ensure you get ALL organic matter off yourself, including the crevices/ cracks/tread of your boots.
7. Peel the disposable coveralls down around your ankles over the rubber boots, turning inside out as you go, but leaving them wrapped around the boots.
8. Step out of the boots and onto the plastic sheet.
9. Pick up the disposable coveralls and place them inside the rubbish bag.
10. Remove eye protection and disinfect to clean side.

11. Disinfect rubber boots and place into the clean area.
12. Take off the 2<sup>nd</sup> pair of gloves if double gloved and put them in the rubbish bag and tie off the rubbish bag.
13. Double bag disposables to the clean area.
14. Tip out the tub/footbath with the disinfectant.

### **Disinfect yourself.**

Stay standing on the plastic sheet and remove outer clothing and hat if it has become contaminated through overalls and double bag to the clean area.

1. Wash and disinfect all contaminated parts and exposed skin with personal disinfectant solution.
2. Rinse off with clean water after allowing sufficient contact time.
3. Dress in clean clothes/overalls/hat. Do not walk back over contaminated ground.
4. Put your shoes on.
5. Carefully, without contaminating your clean clothes, place the drop sheet and buckets/containers and brushes into a clean plastic bag, dampen with disinfectant and seal.
6. Apply a final spray with disinfectant from the spray pack to all remaining bags to leave the property.
7. Liberally wash hands, face & disinfected skin in clean water with detergent or soap.
8. Supervise the same procedures for other people exiting the properties.
9. Return to your practice or residence, shower and dress in clean clothes and footwear.
10. Ensure waste is disposed of as clinical waste.