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Policy: Cleaning and Disinfection of Toys

Date:

Revised Date:

Purpose: Toys can be a reservoir for pathogenic microorganisms that can be present in saliva, respiratory secretions, feces, or other body fluids. For this reason, it is necessary to ensure that patients and families have access to clean toys that are supplied in clinic waiting rooms

Policy

- Toys shall be non-porous, smooth, minimally textured and able to withstand frequent and rigorous cleaning and disinfection.
- Minimize the number of toys and children's books in the center.
- Select non-porous, sturdy toys that do not have small pieces.
- Select toys which can be easily cleaned and disinfected.
- Select books with plasticized or laminated covers and pages which can be easily cleaned and disinfected.
- No plush toys will be permitted.
- Toys and utensils that go into the mouth or that have been in contact with saliva or other body fluids shall be cleaned and disinfected after each child's use.
- Toys that are not contaminated by body fluids shall be cleaned and disinfected at least daily and when visibly soiled.
- Play areas should be cleaned and disinfected at least weekly and when visibly soiled.

References:

1. Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion, Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee. Routine Practices and Additional Precautions in All Health Care Settings. 3rd edition. Toronto, ON: Queen's Printer for Ontario; November 2012.
https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/BrowseByTopic/InfectiousDiseases/PIDAC/Pages/Routine_Practices_Additional_Precautions.aspx
2. Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario), Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee. Infection Prevention and Control for Clinical Office Practice. 1st Revision. Toronto, ON: Queen's Printer for Ontario; April 2015.
https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/eRepository/IPAC_Clinical_Office_Practice_2013.pdf
3. Infection Prevention and Control Canada. 2011. IPAC Canada Practice Recommendations: Toys.
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