



**NL Health
Services**

Infection Prevention and
Control

FACT SHEET

Room Cleaning Acute and Long-Term Care

**HAND HYGIENE:
THE BEST
WAY TO PREVENT
INFECTION**

Who are Environmental Services (EVS)?

Environmental Services (EVS) are a group of healthcare employees who are committed to keeping your room and facility clean. Your room and washroom will be cleaned and disinfected daily. EVS staff will clean accessible surfaces in your room such as your over-bed table, bedside table, and bedrails/controls. The floors will be washed, the garbage will be changed, and soiled linens will be collected and washed.

How can I help keep my room clean?

Teamwork is everything! Everyone has an important role to play in preventing infections from spreading including residents, families, clients, and visitors. Some things you can do to ensure your room is properly cleaned include:

1. De-clutter your room.
 - Clutter makes it difficult for staff to clean and can be a safety hazard for staff when having to move or reach over furniture or personal items.
2. Refrain from keeping food in your room as this can attract rodents and insects.
 - All appliances must be approved and tagged by the infrastructure department. Upkeep and cleaning of approved appliances is the responsibility of the resident/client/family members.
3. Respect visiting hours.
 - It is important to have family and friends visiting while you are in hospital; however, it is recommended that they come during the specified visiting hours which allows EVS staff to come in and properly clean your room. Visitors who stay longer may be asked to leave the room while EVS is performing their daily cleaning.
4. Respect outbreak visiting measures which may be in place at a particular facility.
 - To ensure the safety of staff, clients, residents, and visitors, infection prevention and control may place a facility, unit, or client/resident on outbreak precautions or restrictions.
5. Hand hygiene!
 - The number one way to prevent the spread of infection. Clean your hands when:
 - ✓ They are visibly soiled/dirty.
 - ✓ Before you eat.
 - ✓ After you go to the washroom.
 - ✓ Before and after therapy.
 - ✓ Before and after appointments.
 - ✓ After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.