

Standard Worksheet

Process: Cleaning and disinfection process of the Elephant Ear Wash system

Desired Goal or Outcome: Prevention of Infection Transmission in all Health Care Settings

The trigger nozzle with tubing – can be used for cleaning but should be discarded between patients.

Ideally the bottle and accessory tubing (blue portion that attaches to spray nozzle) should go to Medical Device Reprocesses (MDR) for reprocessing, where MDR is not an option the bottle and accessory tubing can be cleaned and disinfected by following the steps outlined below.

Step	Initial steps after use
1	<p>Dispose of single-use tip</p> <p>Empty ear wash collection container and any remaining water from bottle</p> <p>Disassemble all parts</p> <p>Place all parts: bottle, accessory tubing (blue tube that attached to spray nozzle) spray nozzle and collection container in 'dirty' labelled bin or designated location</p> <p><i>Note: when cleaning/disinfection can't happen immediately, an enzymatic foam or spray to should be used to prevent drying of soiling on instrument</i></p>
<i>Prepare space</i>	
1	Clean hands
2	<p>Clean work space: take a facility approved disinfectant wipe(s), clean the sink basin, faucet taps and counter top</p> <p>Discard wipe</p> <p>Wait disinfectants indicated contact time (Accel = 1-minute)</p>
<i>Clean</i>	
1	Clean hands
2	Gather supplies: clean basin, clean cloth, drying rack and tray or absorbent pad, approved disinfectant and dish soap
3	Place a clean drying rack on tray or absorbent pad on cleaned counter top
4	Put on Personal Protective Equipment per Point of Care Risk Assessment (PCRA) *Gloves for contact with soiled items and gown/eye protection if spray/splash risk present*
5	<p>Wash all parts with warm soapy water (use cloth and friction)</p> <p>Put bottle, spray nozzle and accessory tubing together</p> <p>Pump soapy water through trigger spray system</p>

6	Rinse all parts under warm water Fill bottle with fresh, clean water and pump rinse water through the trigger spray system
7	Disassemble all parts Place parts upside down on drying rack, allow to fully dry
8	Empty basin Use a disinfectant wipe, wipe inside of basin Discard wipe
9	Remove PPE
10	Clean hands
<i>Disinfect</i>	
1	Over basin, pour 2 inches of liquid disinfectant into bottom of bottle Assemble system and shake to disinfect inside of bottle Pump disinfectant through spray nozzle and accessory tubing
2	Disinfect outside of bottle and accessory tubing (wipe or soak in disinfectant)
3	Allow contact time (as directed by disinfectants instructions, Accel = 1-minute) Empty disinfectant
4	Rinse outside of bottle and accessory tubing with water Pour 2 inches of clean water into bottle Pump water rinse through spray nozzle and accessory tubing
5	Discard the spray trigger nozzle with tubing
6	Wipe drying rack with disinfectant wipe Place bottle/accessory tubing upside down on clean surface to fully dry
7	Clean hands
8	Once dry store cleaned in a dry, dust free location

Reference sources:

AHS [Care of Ear Cleaning Equipment \(albertahealthservices.ca\)](https://www.albertahealthservices.ca)

WRHA [Topping up and Reusing.pdf \(wrha.mb.ca\)](https://www.wrha.mb.ca)