

CDC: New Draft Guideline For Disinfection And Sterilization In Healthcare Facilities.

The CDC's new draft guideline deals with disinfection of endoscopes, laparoscopes, arthroscopes, cystoscopes, dental instruments and environmental surfaces with specific disinfectant agents like alcohol, chlorine, formaldehyde, glutaraldehyde, hydrogen peroxide, iodophor, orthophthalaldehyde, peracetic acid, phenolics and quaternary ammonium.

It also deals with sterilization with steam, ethylene oxide, hydrogen peroxide gas plasma, peracetic acid and other practices.

The new draft guideline contains the CDC's current considerations for specific organisms including HIV, other bloodborne pathogens, tuberculosis, Creutzfeldt-Jakob, C. difficile, Cryptosporidium, Helicobacter pylori, E. coli and human papilloma virus.

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On April 30, 2002 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a proposed new *Draft Guideline for Disinfection and Sterilization in Healthcare Facilities*.

This document is not a mandatory Federal regulation at this time.

The CDC is accepting public comments on the draft guideline until June 14, 2002 and will review those comments before deciding to redraft it or issue it as a mandatory new regulation in final form at some point in the future.

The new guideline is intended to replace the portions of *Guideline for Handwashing and Hospital Environmental Control (1985)* dealing with sterilization and disinfection.

The guideline is available on the CDC website at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/hip/dsguide.htm>.

The document is 148 pages long. It is in Adobe Acrobat software format. *It takes time to download; please be patient!*

According to the CDC's announcement, print copies can be obtained from the CDC by writing to Resource Center, Attention: DSGuide, Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion, CDC, Mailstop E68, 1600 Clifton Rd., NE, Atlanta, GA 30333. Fax (404) 498-1244 e mail dsrequest@cdc.gov.

We have placed the entire new guideline on our website at <http://www.nursinglaw.com/disinfection.pdf>.

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