

NIOSH Offers Resources on Respiratory Protection in Healthcare



NIOSH and the National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory (NPPTL) announce the release of three documents related to respiratory protection in healthcare:

1. Hospital Respiratory Protection Toolkit - NIOSH and OSHA resource for employers to use to protect hospital staff. [Toolkit](#)
2. Respiratory Protection Education AAOHN Education & Resources Webkit - Free Online Learning - [Webkit](#)
3. Implementing Hospital Respiratory Protection Programs: Strategies from the Field - [Program Strategies](#)

OSHA Adds Key Hazards for Investigators' Focus in Healthcare Inspections

Targeting some of the most common causes of workplace injury and illness in the healthcare industry, the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) announced the agency is expanding its use of enforcement resources in hospitals and nursing homes to focus on: musculoskeletal disorders related to patient or resident handling; bloodborne pathogens; workplace violence; tuberculosis and slips, trips and falls.

OSHA has advised its staff through a memorandum that all inspections of hospitals and nursing home facilities, including those prompted by complaints, referrals or severe injury reports, should include the review of potential hazards involving MSD related to patient handling; bloodborne pathogens; workplace violence; tuberculosis; and slips, trips and falls.

Contact your MedAssure Representative for a copy of the article.



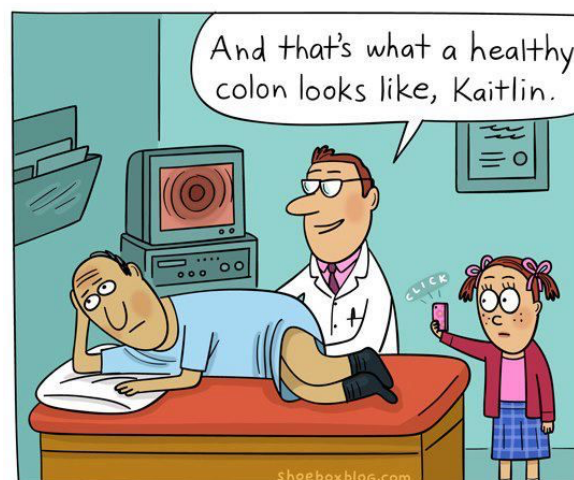
Cleaning and disinfecting environmental surfaces in health care: Toward an integrated framework for infection and occupational illness prevention

Hospitals and other health care institutions are engaged in essential and intensive efforts to prevent health care associated infections (HAIs). HAIs are of particular concern to infection prevention professionals because many of these are caused by rapidly developing strains of multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs). These MDROs can cause serious illness in both patients and health care workers.



Cleaning and disinfecting are important parts of a comprehensive infection prevention strategy. However, not all of cleaning and disinfecting products have standardized criteria for health protection, and many have not been fully evaluated for their infection prevention effectiveness.

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