



## Preventing COVID-19 in Nursing Homes Protocol – UV Marking

### UV Marking

- UV marking is an effective way to measure housekeeping compliance
- UV markers are a gel that can be seen only under a UV flashlight. UV markers are placed on surfaces that are meant to be cleaned. If an object is successfully cleaned, the mark will no longer be visible.
- UV marking is helpful because it provides immediate performance feedback, is relatively inexpensive, and is a fair measurement
  - On most flat surfaces, UV marks are removed reasonably with fully-saturated cleaning cloths and wiping

### High-touch Surfaces

- High-touch surfaces in nursing homes that may be UV marked include, but are not limited to:
  - Resident Room
    - Headboard and Footboard
    - Call Button/TV/Bed Remote
    - Nightstand
    - Over Bed Table
    - Bathroom Handrail
    - Light Switches and Door Handles
  - Common Areas
    - Nursing Station Countertops and Handrails
    - Med Cart Handrails
    - Patient Lifts
    - Dining Room Tables and Chairs
    - Restorative Nursing Walkers
    - Weigh Scale Machines
    - Rehab Room Equipment
    - Shower Handrails and Chairs

## Applying UV Marks

- Using the fluorescent gel of choice, apply a UV marker on a surface
  - The mark should be a thin layer. If too much gel is applied, it may be harder for housekeepers to clean it.
  - Be fair about where you mark. Only mark areas that are expected to be cleaned by housekeeping staff.
  - Use a UV flash light (shown below) to see that the mark has been placed on the surface
- Randomly select surfaces to mark so housekeepers do not become focused on cleaning some objects while avoiding others



## Observing Marking Results

- After a full cleaning cycle, use a UV flash light to view the UV mark
- Use the following chart to compare results, and record results on the “UV Marking Log”

Not Cleaned	Partially Cleaned	Fully Cleaned
Example: 	Example: 	Example: 

## Provide Feedback

- Use the results of UV marking to provide feedback to your housekeeping staff
- This easy and fair visual assessment allows housekeepers to quickly see what areas need improvement