

**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

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**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:C:\Users\cberman1\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.Outlook\VCYGAT4O\NotCleanTable.jpg | Example:C:\Users\cberman1\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.Outlook\VCYGAT4O\PartiallyCleanTable.jpg | Example:C:\Users\cberman1\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.Outlook\VCYGAT4O\CleanTable.jpg |

**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