



HOMES AND SENIORS SERVICES

POLICY & PROCEDURE NUMBER: 2.14

DEPARTMENT: *Infection Control*

SUBJECT: *Nebulizers*

APPROVAL DATE: April 2004

REVISION DATE: March 2016

REVIEW DATE: March 2017

REVIEW DATE: November 2018

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PURPOSE:

To reduce the risk of infection or illness from contamination, all parts of the nebulizers are to be thoroughly cleaned after each treatment. Cleaning keeps the nebulizer from clogging. Nebulizers are for single resident use only. Do not share nebulizers with other residents.

EQUIPMENTS/ SUPPLIES:

- Gloves
- Liquid soap
- Distilled water or sterile water, if possible
- Distilled white vinegar
- Drying cloth or paper towel

PROCEDURE:

Cleaning needed after each use:

1. Perform hand hygiene and put on gloves
2. Remove tubing from nebulizer and disassemble nebulizer parts (at least weekly unless directed otherwise).
3. Wash all parts (except tubing and adapter) with warm water and liquid dish soap.
4. Rinse the mask or mouth piece under warm running water for 30 second. Use distilled or sterile water for rinsing, if possible.
5. Air dry nebulizer parts on a clean cloth or paper towel.
6. Reassemble nebulizer parts together when dry, cover and store.
7. Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene

Disinfecting needed Weekly:

1. Perform hand hygiene and put on gloves
2. Clean the nebulizer parts as described above.



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3. Soak all parts of the nebulizer (except tubing and adapter) in a solution of 1 part distilled white vinegar and 3 parts distilled water for 30 minutes. Discard the vinegar solution when disinfection is complete.
 4. Rinse all parts of the nebulizer thoroughly with warm tap water for 1 minute. Use distilled or sterile water, where available.
 5. Place all parts on a clean dry cloth or paper towel to air dry. Reassemble nebulizer parts when dry.
 6. Clean the surface of the compressed air machine with alcohol swab or disinfectant wipe. **NEVER PLACE THE COMPRESSED AIR MACHINE IN WATER.**
 7. Place a cover over the compressed air machine and store.
 8. Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene