



GUIDANCE DOCUMENT FOR DISINFECTION & SANITIZATION PROTOCOLS FOR MRI AT AIIMS, NEW DELHI (Related to COVID-19)

- All health workers in the zone should wear PPE (Surgical Gown + N-95 Mask + Googles + Gloves)
- The patient should wear a triple layer surgical mask prior to entering the MR zone.
- All necessary precautions to be taken, as the area is with closed air conditioning and the air may be contaminated.
- Patient should be shifted to the MRI table using triple layer bed linen {disposable bed cloth (first layer in contact with the patient) on a plastic of minimum 200 microns thickness on a cloth bedsheet}. Plastic sheet can be dipped in a bucket with 1% Sodium hypochlorite and left for drying in a safe area (for re-use at least 2-3 times).
- Only the bed sheet should be handled while transferring the patient (if Patient Transfer Slide Board is not available).
- The HA should wear a plastic apron over the PPE, to reduce patient-to-patient cross contamination, and after the patient is shifted out of MRI, the plastic apron can be dipped in a bucket with 1% Sodium hypochlorite and left for drying in a safe area (for re-use at least 3-4 times).
- The coil should be covered with a layer of plastic sheet and the patient's body should not touch any coil.
- After the MRI is over, the floor areas should be sanitised using 3 bucket procedure. First bucket has water; second has detergent water; and third has freshly prepared (Can be used maximum for 4 hours) bleach or 1% Sodium hypochlorite. First step is to clean the floor with detergent water, then wring the mop in water, then dip in third bucket with 1% Sodium hypochlorite and clean. Let it dry.
- Also, all the equipment, including finger grip of the Pulse oximeter, physiological monitor, infusion pump, ventilator and anaesthesia workstation should be sanitised (Chemical disinfection should be done as per manufacturer's instructions or 70% alcohol based disinfectant).
- The gantry and the patient table should be wiped with permitted cleaning product (normally Bacillocid is allowed, but it is better to check with the manufacturer). The MRI table has a lot of connections for the plugging in of the coils, and should dry before using.
- The coil should be cleaned (Chemical disinfection should be done as per manufacturer's instructions or 70% alcohol based disinfectant) with appropriate precaution, to make sure that the plug and the RF pins are not wet.
- The coil also should be wiped with a dry cloth after appropriate contact time as per disinfectant used.
- The air-conditioning units (for the examination room) should be switched off during the cleaning process (if damper provision is available, then the MRI examination area damper should be closed for 15 minutes during the cleaning process).
- Air-conditioning filter should be cleaned properly. The units should be switched off for a period of 15 minutes and switched on again. The coils need to be sanitised once again. After the patient table and coils are dry, next patient may be taken. The approximate duration of wait time would be 30 minutes (time for cleaning and for drying) and can be reduced to even 15 minutes with efficient work practices (subject to the availability of the PPE, the plastic sheet, and plastic apron).

Please note:

- a. The personnel on disinfection control/ Sanitising job should wear necessary PPE (Surgical Gown + N-95 Mask + Googles + Gloves)
- b. Airborne precautions are reserved for those patients who are critically ill or are undergoing aerosol-generating procedures (bronchoscopy, intubation, nebulization, or open suction)¹.

Reference

1. Mossa-Basha M, Meltzer CC, Kim DC, Tuite MJ, Kolli KP, Tan BS., 2020 Radiology Department Preparedness for COVID-19: Radiology Scientific Expert Panel. Radiology :200988. doi: 10.1148/radiol.2020200988.

This document is dynamic and will be updated with further clinical scenarios as the need arises.

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Revised Version

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