Inanimate surfaces are often identified as the source for outbreaks in healthcare settings.

SURFACES

AND

OBJECTS

OF MICROORGANISMS ON INANIMATE

SURVIVAL

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The most common microorganism may survive on surfaces for hours (or months) and can be a continuous source of transmission. A single hand contact with a contaminated surface results in microorganism transfer. Contaminated hands are also the source re-contamination of a surface after it has been cleaned.

Routine hand hygiene, cleaning, and disinfection are key to preventing the spread of microorganisms to objects, surfaces, and people. Reading disinfectant product labels is important when determining if it's effective against a particular microorganism, and to ensure appropriate contact time is used (see link: "How to Read a Disinfectant Label").

Common mode of transmission from objects/surfaces to susceptible patients/residents



How long do nosocomial pathogens persist on inanimate surfaces? | NIH



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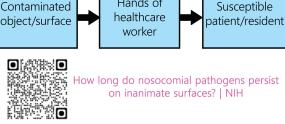
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SURVIVAL OF MICROORGANISMS ON INANIMATE OBJECTS AND SURFACES The

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SURVIVAL OF MICROORGANISMS ON INANIMATE OBJECTS AND SURFACES

Microorganism	Survival (range)
Acinetobacter spp.	3 days - 5 months
Bordetella pertussis	3 – 5 days
Campylobacter jejuni	≥ 6 days
Candida albicans	1 - 120 days
Candida auris	7 days
Clostridioides difficile (spores)	5 months
Coronavirus	hours - days
Escherichia coli	1.5 hours – 16 months
Enterococcus spp. /VRE	5 days – 4 months
Haemophilus influenzae	12 days
Hepatitis A	2 hours – 60 days
Hepatitis B	≥ 1 week
HIV	≥ 7 days
Klebsiella spp.	2 hours - 30 months
Listeria spp.	1 day – months
Norovirus	8 hours – 7 days
Proteus vularis	1 – 2 days
Pseudomonas aeruginosa	5 hours – 16 months
Salmonella spp.	1 day
Serratia marcescens	3 days - 2 months
Shigella spp.	2 days – 5 months
Staphylococcus aureus/MRSA	7 days – 7 months
Streptococcus pneumoniae	1 - 20 days
Streptococcus pyogenes	3 days - 6.5 months
Companion Pocket Cards:	
 Normal Flora 	

SURVIVAL OF MICROORGANISMS ON INANIMATE OBJECTS AND SURFACES

- How Infections are Spread
- Hand Hygiene
- Cleaning and Disinfection
- Steps in Daily Room Cleaning

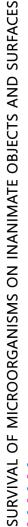


Locate all pocket cards on the HQIN resource









 Steps in Daily Room Cleaning Organizations



Survival (range)

3 days - 5 months

3 – 5 days ≥ 6 days

1 - 120 days

hours - days

1.5 hours – 16 months

5 days – 4 months

2 hours - 60 days

2 hours - 30 months

5 hours – 16 months

3 days - 2 months

2 days – 5 months

7 days – 7 months

3 days - 6.5 months

1 day – months 8 hours - 7 days

7 days

5 months

12 days

≥ 1 week ≥ 7 days

1 - 2 days

1 - 20 days

Locate all pocket cards on the HQIN resource





How Infections are Spread

Cleaning and Disinfection







Microorganism

Clostridioides difficile (spores)

Acinetobacter spp.

Candida auris

Coronavirus

Hepatitis A

Hepatitis B

Klebsiella spp.

Proteus vularis

Salmonella spp.

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Norovirus

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Companion Pocket Cards: Normal Flora

Streptococcus pyogenes

Hand Hygiene

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