

# Cleaning Stethoscope

<b>Purpose</b>	The purpose of this procedure is to prevent cross contamination when using a stethoscope between residents and/or when a stethoscope is used by multiple staff members.
<b>Equipment and Supplies</b>	<p>The following equipment and supplies will be necessary when performing this procedure.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Stethoscope;</li> <li>2. Alcohol wipes; and</li> <li>3. Personal protective equipment (e.g., gowns, gloves, mask, etc., as needed).</li> </ol>
<b>Steps in the Procedure</b>	<p>In the absence of the manufacturer's specific care and maintenance instructions, clean the stethoscope using the following procedures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Arrange the supplies so they can be easily reached.</li> <li>2. Wash and dry your hands thoroughly.</li> <li>3. Put on clean gloves.</li> <li>4. Examine stethoscope for damages. Report damaged equipment to your supervisor.</li> <li>5. Using firm pressure, clean stethoscope ear pieces, tubing, diaphragm and bell in a circular motion.</li> <li>6. Remove gloves and discard into designated container. Wash and dry your hands thoroughly.</li> <li>7. Return the stethoscope to its designated storage area.</li> <li>8. Discard disposable equipment and supplies in designated containers.</li> <li>9. Clean and disinfect the surface area used to clean the stethoscope.</li> <li>10. Wash and dry your hands thoroughly.</li> </ol>

<b>References</b>	
<b>MDS (RAPs)</b>	n/a
<b>Survey Tag Numbers</b>	F441; F442; F443; F444
<b>Related Documents</b>	Reprocessing Methods for Equipment Used in the Health-Care Setting (Appendix A)
<b>Risk of Exposure</b>	Blood–Body Fluids–Infectious Diseases–Air Contaminants–Hazardous Chemicals
<b>Procedure Revised</b>	Date: _____ By: _____
	Date: _____ By: _____
	Date: _____ By: _____
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