
MANIKIN DECONTAMINATION AND USE

Because it is vitally important to prevent the spread of infectious disease through manikin use, manikins should be cleaned and disinfected carefully and consistently.

To minimize the already low risk of disease transmission during mouth-to-mouth training on a manikin, all participants should:

- Wash their hands thoroughly before working with the manikin.
- Not eat or drink during manikin use.
- Use their own face shield or breathing barrier, each time they practice on the manikin.
- Properly decontaminate the manikin between users (even when breathing barriers are used).

Before each class, inspect the manikins for cracks or rips in the face that make it difficult or impossible to clean the manikin properly. Do not use any manikin that has cracks or rips in the face.

- Properly decontaminate manikins during class. Some manikins need to be decontaminated during use. Some manikins have disposable plastic bags that protrude from the mouth, covering the manikin's face. Others have individual manikin faces that are applied at the time of practice. For all manikins, vigorously wipe the entire face and the inside of the mouth. Use a clean, absorbent material (e.g., 4" × 4" gauze pad) wet with either a solution of liquid household chlorine bleach and water (1/4 cup of bleach to 1 gallon of water).
- The surfaces should remain wet for at least 1 minute before they are wiped dry with a second piece of clean, absorbent material. This solution must be made fresh just before each class and discarded after use. Since chlorine bleach may be objectionable to some people, an alternative is 70 percent alcohol (isopropyl or ethanol). Although alcohol can kill many bacteria and viruses, there are some that it cannot kill. But when alcohol is combined with vigorous scrubbing of the manikin's face, it is highly unlikely that any infectious diseases will be transmitted.
- Properly decontaminate manikins after each class. As soon as possible after the end of each class session in which manikins are used, all manikins should be properly cleaned. Follow manufacturer's recommendations for disassembly. To properly decontaminate a manikin, have chlorine bleach solution and gauze pads, a bottle brush, soap and water, basins or buckets, nonlatex disposable gloves (such as vinyl or nitrile), and any other supplies recommended by the manikin manufacturer.
- As soon as possible after the end of each class session, replace or clean the manikin's head and airway passages as follows:
 1. Wash with warm, soapy water.
 2. Rinse with clean water.
 3. Decontaminate by soaking in the bleach solution for 10 minutes.
 4. Rinse with fresh water.
 5. Dry all internal and external surfaces. Rinsing with alcohol will aid drying of the internal surfaces.

Vigorously scrubbing manikin parts with soap and water is an important as soaking them in the bleach solution. Protective gloves should be worn throughout the disassembling, cleaning and decontaminating procedures.

Always wear safety goggles and protective gloves when cleaning manikins with chlorine bleach solution. Always clean manikins in a well-ventilated area.