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Review of decontamination protocols for shared non-critical objects in 35 policies of UK NHS acute care organizations

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Table S1List of the acute care organizations (AOCs) whose policies were analysed in the main text and geographical collocation

AOC name	Nation
Ashford and St. Peter's Hospitals	England
Black Country Partnership	England
Cambridge University Hospitals	England
Cheshire and Wirral Partnership	England
Imperial College Healthcare	England
Mid Essex Hospital Services	England
Northern Care Alliance	England
Nottingham University Hospitals	England
Nottinghamshire Healthcare	England
Oxford Health	England
Plymouth Hospitals	England
Portsmouth Hospitals	England
Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber	England
Royal Cornwall Hospitals	England
Royal Devon and Exeter	England
Royal United Hospitals Bath	England
Sheffield Health and Social Care	England
Solent	England
Somerset Partnership	England
South Central Ambulance Service	England
Southern Health	England
St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospital	England
The Leeds Teaching Hospitals	England
The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	England
University Hospital Birmingham	England
University Hospital of Leicester	England
University Hospital Southampton	England
University Hospitals Bristol	England
York Teaching Hospital	England
Belfast Health and Social Care Trust	Northern Ireland
Greater Glasgow and Clyde	Scotland
Lanarkshire	Scotland
Lothian NHS	Scotland
Cardiff and Vale University Health Board	Wales
Swansea Bay University	Wales

Table S2Full list of the objects retrieved and their classification for criticality, sharedness and mobility, in alphabetical order.

Objects	Criticality	Shared	Spatial position
Acupuncture needles	Critical	No	Static
Air cooling units	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Air vents	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Airways and endotracheal tubes	Semi-critical	No	Movable
Airways trolleys	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Alarm pads	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Alcohol breathalysers	Semi-critical	Yes	Movable
Ambu bags	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Ambu lifts	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Ambulance bags	Non-critical	No	Movable
Ampoules/vials	Non-critical	No	Movable
Anaesthetic equipment	Critical	Yes	Movable
Anal retractors	Semi-critical	Yes	Movable
Arm rests	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Arterial blood pressure monitors (circuit)	Critical	No	Static
Arterial blood pressure monitors (exterior)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Auroscopes (earpiece)	Semi-critical	Yes	Movable
Auroscopes (handle)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Baby baths	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Baby changing mats	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Baby feeding bottles	Semi-critical	No	Movable
Baby scales	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Banana boards	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Bariatric hoists	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Bath/shower stools	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Bath/shower trays	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Bathmats	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Bathrooms	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Bathroom hoists	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Baths (specialist)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Baths/showers	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Beds (under)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Bed frames and cot frames	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Bed screens	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Bed tables	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Bed warmers/Billibeds	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Bedpan carriers/holders	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Bedpan racks	Non-critical	No	Static
Bedpan washers/disinfectors	Non-critical	No	Static
Bedpans	Non-critical	Yes	Movable

Objects	Criticality	Shared	Spatial position
Bidets	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Birthing pools	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Bladder scanners (machine case)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Bladder scanners (probe)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Blinds	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Blood gas analysers	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Blood pressure cuffs	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Blood pressure stands	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
BM kits (case)	Non-critical	No	Movable
BM kits (lancets)	Critical	No	Movable
Breast pumps	Semi-critical	No	Movable
Breast pumps (accessories)	Semi-critical	No	Movable
Brushes (cleaning)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Brushes (hair)	Non-critical	No	Movable
Brushes (lavatory)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Brushes (nail)	Non-critical	No	Movable
Brushes (surgical nails)	Non-critical	No	Movable
Buckets	Non-critical	No	Movable
Carry chairs	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Catheter drainages (bag)	Non-critical	No	Static
Catheter drainages (tap)	Non-critical	No	Static
Catheter stands	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Catheters	Critical	No	Static
Cautery tips	Critical	Yes	Movable
CCTV equipment	Non-critical	No	Static
Ceilings	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Ceilings (acoustic)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Chairs	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Chairs (specialist)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Clean utility racking	Non-critical	No	Static
Cleaning cloths/mops	Non-critical	No	Movable
Cleaning equipment	Non-critical	No	Movable
Clippers (handle)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Clippers (head)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
CO breath monitors	Non-critical	Yes	Static
CO breath monitors (cardboard tubes)	Semi-critical	Yes	Static
CO breath monitors (D pieces)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
CO breath monitors (micromedical)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
CO breath monitors (T pieces)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
CO ₂ analysers	Semi-critical	Yes	Static
Commodes	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Compressors	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Computer, monitors, keyboards	Non-critical	No	Static
Cookers	Non-critical	Yes	Static

Objects	Criticality	Shared	Spatial position
Cooling blankets	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Cots/basinets	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Cough Assist (case)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Cough Assist (filter)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Cough Assist (mask)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
CPAP equipment	Semi-critical	Yes	Movable
Crockery	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Cryo cuffs	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
CTG monitors (frame)	Non-critical	No	Static
CTG monitors (transducers)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Curtain rails	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Curtains	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Curtains (shower)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Cushions/pressure relieving	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Cutlery	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Defibrillators	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Defibrillators (cable and leads)	Non-critical	No	Movable
Defibrillators (electrodes)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Defibrillators (pads)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Delivery beds	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Dementia dolls	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Denture pots	Non-critical	No	Static
Desks	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Dialysis chairs	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Dialysis machine	Non-critical	No	Static
Dirty utility racks	Non-critical	No	Static
Dishcloths	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Dishwashers	Non-critical	No	Static
Door furniture (handle, plates, etc.)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Doors	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Doppler scanners (casing)	Non-critical	No	Static
Doppler scanners (probe)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Drainage bags	Non-critical	No	Movable
Drainage bag holders	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Drains (shower)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Drains (sink)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Dressing trolleys	Non-critical	No	Movable
Drink trolleys	Non-critical	No	Movable
Drinking water dispensers	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Drip stands	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Dryer filters	Non-critical	No	Static
Dummies	Non-critical	No	Movable
Duvets	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Dynamap (cuff)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable

Objects	Criticality	Shared	Spatial position
Dynamap (machine)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Ear syringes	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
ECG (casing and monitors)	Non-critical	No	Static
ECG (electrodes)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
ECG (leads)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Electronic patient record units	Non-critical	No	Movable
Endoscopes	Semi-critical	No	Movable
Enteral tube feeding equipment (pump)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Enteral tube feeding equipment (reservoir)	Non-critical	No	Movable
Enteral tube feeding equipment (set)	Semi-critical	Yes	Movable
Enteral tube feeding equipment (syringe)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Enuresin alarms	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Examination couches	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Examination couches (frame)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Examination lamps	Non-critical	No	Static
Eye protections	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Face cloths	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Face masks	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Fans	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Fax	Non-critical	No	Static
Filters (bacterial)	Non-critical	No	Static
Fire blankets	Non-critical	No	Static
Floor	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Floor (carpets)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Floor (non-Slip)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Floor (polished)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Floor (theatre)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Floor cleaning machines	Non-critical	No	Movable
Flow meters	Semi-critical	Yes	Static
Flow meters (filter)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Flow meters (holder)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Flow meters (mouthpiece)	Semi-critical	Yes	Static
Flower vases	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Foam troughs/wedges	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Food trolleys	Non-critical	No	Movable
Footstools	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Footwear	Non-critical	No	Movable
Forceps (biopsy)	Critical	Yes	Movable
Fridges and freezers	Non-critical	No	Static
Furnishing (soft)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Furniture and fittings	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Gas cylinder holders	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Glasses for eye tests	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Glazing (external)	Non-critical	No	Static

Objects	Criticality	Shared	Spatial position
Glazing (internal)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Glucometers	Critical	Yes	Movable
Glucometers (box)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Gum elastic bougies	Semi-critical	Yes	Movable
Gym equipment	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Hairdressing equipment	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Hand gel dispensers	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Handwash containers	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Handling belts	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Handrails	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Headboxes	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Headphones (earpiece)	Semi-critical	Yes	Static
Headphones (set)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Headphones (TV)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Hearing test machines (earpiece)	Semi-critical	Yes	Static
Hearing test machines (headphones)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Hearing test machines (structure)	Non-critical	No	Static
Height measures	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Helmets	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
HiFi	Non-critical	Yes	Static
High visibility jackets	Non-critical	No	Movable
Hoist frames	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Hoist standings	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Hoist straps/slings	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
HoverJack	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Humidifiers	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Hydrotherapy pools	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Ice machines	Non-critical	No	Static
Immobilization equipment	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Immobilization equipment (straps)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Incubators	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Infusion pumps	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Inhalers	Semi-critical	No	Movable
Intensive therapy units	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Intravenous device ports and hubs	Critical	No	Static
Intravenous injection trays	Non-critical	No	Movable
Jugs	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Kitchen beverage areas	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Kitchen cupboards	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Laerdal pocket masks	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Laryngeal masks	Critical	Yes	Static
Laryngoscope blades	Semi-critical	Yes	Static
Laryngoscope blade holders	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Laundry room	Non-critical	No	Static

Objects	Criticality	Shared	Spatial position
Leaflet holders	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Leg raisers	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Lights	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Linen bin racking	Non-critical	No	Static
Linens	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Linen storage	Non-critical	No	Static
Linen trolleys	Non-critical	No	Movable
Lockers (exterior)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Lockers (interior)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Lung function machines (mouthpieces)	Semi-critical	Yes	Static
Macerators	Non-critical	No	Static
Magill forceps	Critical	Yes	Movable
Manual handling aids/slings	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Mattresses (motor)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Mattresses (pressure relieving)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Mattresses (static)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Mechanical ventilators	Semi-critical	Yes	Movable
Medical equipment (general)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Medical gas equipment	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Medicine cups/pots	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Medicine cupboards	Non-critical	No	Static
Medicine trolleys	Non-critical	No	Movable
Microwave ovens	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Mirrors	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Mobile handheld devices (phone, tablets, etc.)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Mortuary trolleys	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
MRIs	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Nebulizers	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Nebulizers (chamber)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Nebulizers (filter)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Nebulizers (machine)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Nebulizers (mask)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Nebulizers (tubing)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Nipple shields	Semi-critical	No	Movable
Note holders	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Notes trolleys	Non-critical	No	Movable
Nurse call systems	Non-critical	Yes	Static
One-way glides	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Operating tables	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Ophthalmoscopes (eye piece)	Semi-critical	Yes	Movable
Ophthalmoscopes (handle)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Optiflows	Semi-critical	Yes	Movable
Ovens	Non-critical	No	Static
Oxygen cylinders	Non-critical	Yes	Static

Objects	Criticality	Shared	Spatial position
Oxygen flowmeters	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Oxygen tubing and masks	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Paper towel holders	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Patella hammers	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Patient clothes	Non-critical	No	Movable
Patient lines	Non-critical	No	Static
Patient trolleys	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Patient warming systems	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Patient washbowls	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Patients slides	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Pest control devices	Non-critical	No	Static
Photocopiers	Non-critical	No	Static
Phototherapy units	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Picture frames	Non-critical	No	Static
Pillows	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Placebo inhalers	Semi-critical	Yes	Movable
PPE dispensers (Danicentre)	Non-critical	No	Static
Printers	Non-critical	No	Static
Procedure trays	Non-critical	No	Movable
Proctoscopes	Semi-critical	Yes	Movable
Pulse oximeters	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Radiators	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Radios (handheld)	Non-critical	No	Movable
Radios (vehicle based)	Non-critical	No	Static
Raised toilet seats	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Razors	Non-critical	No	Movable
Razors (defibrillator)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Replenishments	Non-critical	No	Movable
Respirometers	Semi-critical	Yes	Static
Resus boards	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Resus catheter mounts	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Resus face masks	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Resus suction and liners	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Resus syringes	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Resus training equipment	Non-critical	No	Movable
Resus trolleys	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Resuscitaires	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Rope ladders (fabric)	Non-critical	No	Movable
Rope ladders (plastic)	Non-critical	No	Movable
Rota stands	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Rotunda transfer platforms	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Scales	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Scanners	Non-critical	No	Static
Scissors	Non-critical	No	Movable

Objects	Criticality	Shared	Spatial position
Scoop stretchers	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Sharp bin trays	Non-critical	No	Movable
Shelves	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Shelves (clinical area)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Shower heads and hoses	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Shower trolleys	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Sigmoid scopes	Semi-critical	Yes	Movable
Sinks	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Slide sheets	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Slings	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Sluice	Non-critical	No	Static
Sluice hoppers	Non-critical	No	Static
Soft furnishing	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Soft transfer discs	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Space blankets	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Spacers	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Sphygmomanometers	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Sphygmomanometers (case)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Spinal boards	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Spirometer	Semi-critical	Yes	Static
Spirometer (barrel)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Spirometer (filter)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Spirometer (mouthpiece)	Semi-critical	Yes	Static
Spirometer (tubing)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Splints	Non-critical	No	Movable
Sputum pots	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Standing hoist slings	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Stationery	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Stethoscopes	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Stock trolleys	Non-critical	No	Movable
Storage cupboards	Non-critical	No	Static
Stress test machines	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Suction bottles	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Suction canisters	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Suction catheters	Semi-critical	Yes	Movable
Suction filters	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Suction holders	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Suction tubing and liner	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Suction units (vehicle based)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Suction units	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Surfaces (clinical)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Surfaces (general)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Surfaces (high)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Surfaces (low)	Non-critical	Yes	Static

Objects	Criticality	Shared	Spatial position
Surfaces (theatre)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Surgical bowls	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Surgical instruments	Critical	Yes	Movable
Swivel connectors	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Syringe drivers	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Tables	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Tape measures	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Tea trolleys	Non-critical	No	Movable
Telephones	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Telephones (hot desk)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Thermometers	Semi-critical	Yes	Movable
Thermometers (display)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Thermometers (earpiece/sheath)	Semi-critical	Yes	Movable
Thermometers (handle)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Thermometers (TempaDot)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Thermometers (tip and lens)	Semi-critical	Yes	Movable
Toasters	Non-critical	No	Static
Toilet brushes	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Toilet roll holders	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Toilets	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Tonometer	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Toothbrush	Non-critical	No	Static
Top of furnishings	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Tourniquets	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Toys (hard)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Toys (soft)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Traction bags	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Traction beams in ceilings	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Training mannequins	Non-critical	No	Movable
Transducers	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Transfer belts	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Transfer trolleys	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Treatment trolleys	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Trolleys (general)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Tubing	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Tuning forks	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
TVs	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Ultrasound scanners (machine)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Ultrasound scanners (transducers)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Ultrasound scanner probe (non-invasive)	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Ultrasound scanner probes (semi-critical)	Semi-critical	Yes	Static
Uniforms	Non-critical	No	Movable
Urinal holders	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Urinals	Non-critical	Yes	Movable

Objects	Criticality	Shared	Spatial position
Vacutainer needle holders	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Vacuum assisted closure pumps	Non-critical	No	Movable
Vaginal speculae	Semi-critical	Yes	Movable
Ventilation ducts	Non-critical	No	Static
Ventilation grilles	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Ventilator equipment	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Ventose machines	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Vital sign monitors	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Vomit bowls	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Walking aids	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
Wall fixtures	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Walls	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Waste bins	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Water boilers	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Water coolers	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Weights	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Wheelchairs	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
White board	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Work surfaces	Non-critical	No	Static
Workstation on wheels	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
X-ray cassettes	Non-critical	Yes	Movable
X-ray machines	Non-critical	Yes	Static
X-ray wedges	Non-critical	Yes	Static
Yankauer suckers	Semi-critical	Yes	Movable

CO, carbon monoxide; CO₂, carbon dioxide; CPAP, continuous positive airway pressure; CTG, cardiotocograph; ECG, electrocardiogram; TV, television; MRI, magnetic resonance imaging; PPE, personal protective equipment; Resus, resuscitation.

 Table S3

 Decontamination methods retrieved and their classification in homogeneous categories

Category	Decontamination methods
Chemical disinfection	1,000 ppm chlorine solution
	70% alcohol, 2% chlorhexidine wipe
	Alcohol wipe
	Chlorine wipe
	Disinfectant spray
	Disinfectant wipe
Cleaning	Cream cleanser
	Detergent and water
	Detergent wipe
	Dishwasher
	Dump dust
	Soda
	Toilet cleaner
	Ultrasonic cleaning
Dispose	Dispose
High-level disinfection	10,000 ppm chlorine solution
	High-level disinfection
	Sporicidal wipe
Manufacturer instructions	Manufacturer instructions
	Return to provider
Sterilization	Sterilization
Thermal disinfection	Laundry
	Steam clean
	Thermal disinfection
	Washer-disinfector

Table S4Professional figures responsible for decontamination and their classification in homogeneous categories

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staff
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are support worker
are worker
l staff
e
nealthcare professional
herapist
ecialist
raphy staff
raining instructor
y staff

HCW, healthcare worker; Resus, resuscitation.

 Table S5

 Decontamination frequencies retrieved and their classification in homogeneous categories

Category	Frequency
Between events	Before and after uses
	Between uses
	Between patients
Once or more per day	At each shift
	Three times per day
	Twice per day
	Daily
Every 4–14 days	Twice per week
	Weekly
	Every two weeks
Monthly or less often	Monthly
	2-monthly
	3-monthly
	4-monthly
	6-monthly
	Annually
When required	When required

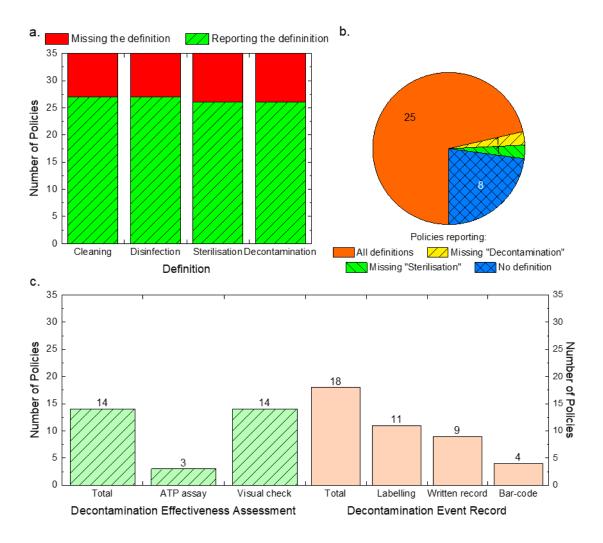


Figure S1. (a) Number of policies reporting definitions for 'cleaning', 'disinfection', 'sterilization' and 'decontamination', as reported in the Methods section. (b) Distribution of policies according to the definitions reported. (c) Number of policies reporting methods to assess the effectiveness of decontamination (green) and to record decontamination of objects (red). ATP, adenosine triphosphate.

Supporting Section 1: Details of decontamination policies

Decontamination policies were retrieved from 35 NHS ACOs, of which 29 were from England, three were from Scotland, two were from Wales and one was from Northern Ireland (Figure S2a). Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland each have national/regional guidance to follow, with Scotland and Northern Ireland providing an A–Z template list of decontamination protocols for specific objects [1–4]. All the policies analysed were current at the time they were obtained (end of 2020), with four, expired in the last months of 2020, under revision (Figure S2b). Five policies did not state a review date, with four of them following national/regional guidance and the fifth currently under revision.

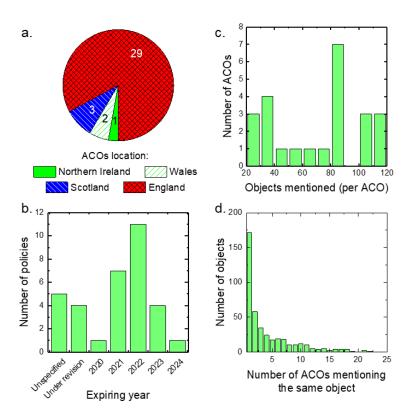


Figure S2. Overview of the policies obtained. (a) Geographical location of the acute care organizations (ACOs) whose policies were analysed. (b) Expiring year of the policies analysed. When more than one document (i.e. decontamination policy, cleaning manual, etc.) was retrieved per ACO, the closer date was stated. (c) Presence of a detailed A–Z decontamination list of objects in the policies. (d) Distribution of the number of objects mentioned in each policy for the 25 policies with a A–Z list. (e) Distribution of the objects retrieved according to the number of mentioning policies. (f) Prevalence of protocols with no, single or multiple indications regarding decontamination method, figure responsible for decontamination and decontamination frequency.

Table S6List of objects with more than 10 mentions with their categorization for criticality, sharedness and spatial position

Objects	Criticality	Shared	Spatial position	Number of policies mentioning the object
Bed frames and cot frames	Non-critical	Yes	Static	22
Patient washbowls	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	21
Commodes	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	21
Slings	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	19
Baths/showers	Non-critical	Yes	Static	18
Blood pressure cuffs	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	18
Pillows	Non-critical	Yes	Static	18
Hoist frames	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	18
Mattresses (static)	Non-critical	Yes	Static	17
Wheelchairs	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	17
Scales	Non-critical	Yes	Static	17
Dressing trolleys	Non-critical	No	Movable	17
Stethoscopes	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	16
Bedpans	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	16
Drip stands	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	16
Infusion pumps	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	16
Bedpan carriers/holders	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	15
Examination couches	Non-critical	Yes	Static	15
Medicine trolleys	Non-critical	No	Movable	14
Fans	Non-critical	Yes	Static	14
Toys (hard)	Non-critical	Yes	Static	14
Catheter stands	Non-critical	Yes	Static	14
Mattresses (pressure relieving)	Non-critical	Yes	Static	14
Computers, monitors, keyboards	Non-critical	No	Static	13
Sphygmomanometers	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	13
Nebulizers	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	13
Thermometers (earpiece/sheath)	Semi-critical	Yes	Movable	13
Suction units	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	12
Linen trolleys	Non-critical	No	Movable	12
Urinals	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	12
Pulse oximeters	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	12
Thermometers (handle)	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	12
Walking aids	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	11
Curtains	Non-critical	Yes	Static	11
Toilets	Non-critical	Yes	Static	11
Telephones	Non-critical	Yes	Static	11
Medical gas equipment	Non-critical	Yes	Static	11

Objects	Criticality	Shared	Spatial position	Number of policies mentioning the object
Hand gel dispensers	Non-critical	Yes	Static	11
Raised toilet seats	Non-critical	Yes	Static	11
Oxygen tubing and masks	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	11
Oxygen cylinders	Non-critical	Yes	Static	11
Fridges and freezers	Non-critical	No	Static	11
Ambu bags	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	10
Auroscopes (earpiece)	Semi-critical	Yes	Movable	10
Chairs	Non-critical	Yes	Static	10
Crockery	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	10
ECG (casing and monitors)	Non-critical	No	Static	10
Jugs	Non-critical	Yes	Movable	10
Laryngoscope blades	Semi-critical	Yes	Static	10
Airways and endotracheal tubes	Semi-critical	No	Movable	10
Macerators	Non-critical	No	Static	10
Notes trolleys	Non-critical	No	Movable	10
Sinks	Non-critical	Yes	Static	10
Lockers (exterior)	Non-critical	Yes	Static	10

ECG, electrocardiogram.

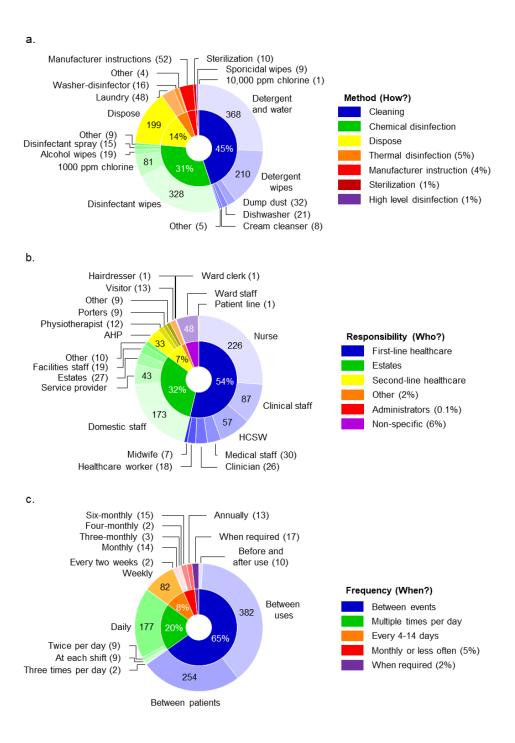


Figure S3. Detailed breakdown of decontamination protocols for shared non-critical objects. Detailed indications retrieved for the decontamination method (a), responsibility (b) and frequency (c). In panels (b), (c) and (d), the graphs are normalized for the total number of indications given, excluding the entries where no indication was present. The inner part of the doughnut graphs is also reported in Figure 1 in the main text and represents the indications grouped according to the categories defined in Tables S3–S5. In the outer part of the doughnut graphs, these categories are broken down into the single components, and the absolute number of indications retrieved is given. HCSW, healthcare support worker; AHP, allied healthcare professional.

Supporting Section 2: Examples of decontamination protocols for shared non-critical objects

Fourteen common shared-use objects were selected, and decontamination protocols were reported in detail. Bed frames, bed tables, mattresses and examination couches were selected as objects with high occupancy, frequently touched, but a fixed spatial position. Blood pressure (BP) monitors, commodes, pulse oximeters, stethoscopes, thermometers and tourniquets were chosen as movable devices which contact several patients in a short time. Computers, floors, hand gel dispensers and nurse call systems were chosen because, even if ubiquitous, they are not directly related to caring activities.

Excluding the nurse call system (four policies), the 14 objects selected as significant examples were mentioned in more than the average four policies (Figure S4a). As reported in Table S8, certain objects were analysed in more detail in some policies, either because they are composed of multiple pieces with different decontamination protocols (BP monitor devices and thermometers) or because they represent a broader category which needs specification (floors and mattresses).

Overall, 39% (100/255) of the protocols regarding these objects were complete and 15% (39/255) were complete and unequivocal. The indication that was more often absent relates to the designation of responsibility for the procedure (Figure S4b,c,d). For nine of 15 objects, this was reported in less than half of the protocols. In 71% (29/37) of the protocols regarding thermometers, there was no indication of who should perform the decontamination. The decontamination method was indicated in \geq 75% of the protocols for all the objects except the hand gel dispenser (64%, 7/11). The decontamination frequency was indicated in \geq 75% of the protocols for all but floors (69%, 18/26).

All the decontamination protocols retrieved for these 15 objects are reported in Table S9.

Figure S5 combines the indications given by the various protocols. Each object was associated with an average of 3.3 different decontamination methods (range 1–6), five people responsible for decontamination (range 1–14) and 2.7 different decontamination frequencies (range 1–6). Further details about BP monitoring devices and call systems are also reported here.

In the policies analysed, a BP monitoring device was broken down into three objects with different protocols: the BP cuff, the sphygmomanometer and its case. BP cuffs were mentioned in 18 policies (eight complete protocols, three complete and unequivocal protocols). Three shared the same decontamination protocol, using disinfectant wipes. Each of the other 15 policies specified a unique decontamination protocol. Figure S5b,c,d sums up the recommendations retrieved. The sphygmomanometer appeared in 13 policies and the case in one policy, with 11 policies citing both the cuff and the sphygmomanometer, and one policy citing all three.

Four policies with an A–Z list (16%) reported a decontamination protocol for the nurse call system:

- Policy A states that service providers should carry out the decontamination;
- Policy B calls for weekly cleaning with detergent and water or detergent wipes;
- Policy C recommends that nurses should decontaminate the object with disinfectant wipes between usage on/by different patients; and
- Policy D indicates that clinical staff should perform daily decontamination with disinfectant wipes.

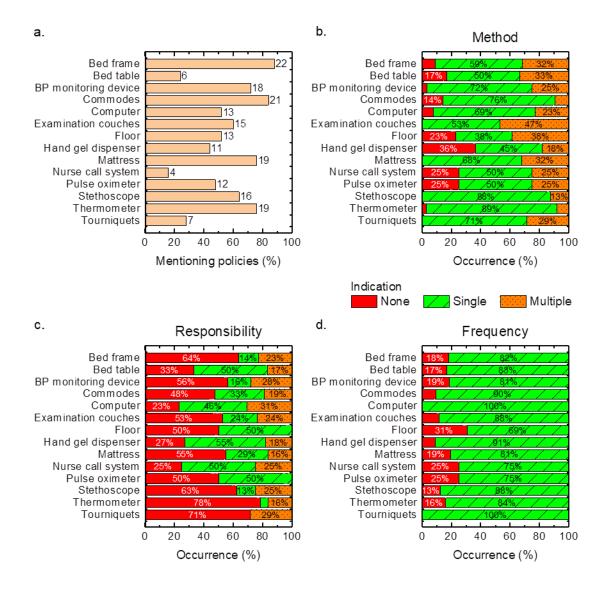


Figure S4. (a) Fraction of the policies with an A–Z list mentioning the objects selected as examples. The labels on the bars report the absolute number of mentions. Occurrence of none, single or multiple indications for method (b), responsibility (c) and frequency (d) in the protocols retrieved for the selected objects. Each bar in (b), (c) and (d) is normalized to the total number of protocols retrieved for each single object as reported in (a). BP, blood pressure.

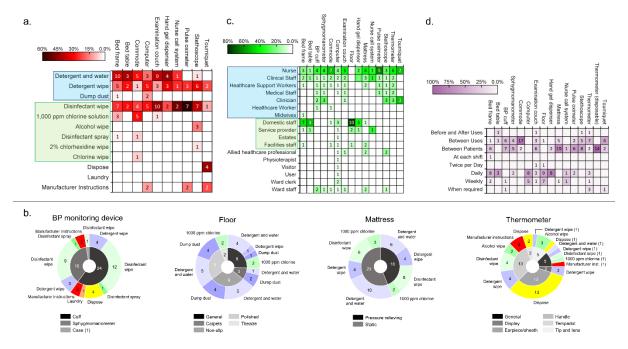


Figure S5. Detailed protocols for the decontamination of 14 objects selected as examples. Number of associations between a specific decontamination method and the selected objects without (a) and with (b) subcategories. In (a), the cleaning methods are framed in blue and the chemical decontamination methods in green. In (b), the methods are colour coded according to Figure 2. (c) Number of retrieved associations between the objects and the figure responsible for their decontamination. First-line healthcare professionals are framed in blue, and estates in green. (d) Number of retrieved associations between the objects and decontamination frequencies. In (a), (c) and (d), as shown by the coloured bars, the darker the colour, the higher the association between the indication and the object. BP, blood pressure.

Table S7

List of the example objects that were furtherly specified in subcategories

Objects	Subcategories	Entries
BP monitoring device	BP cuff	18
	Sphygmomanometer	13
	Case	1
Floor	Floor	7
	Carpets	7
	Non-slip	5
	Polished	5
	Theatre	2
Mattress	Pressure relieving	14
	Static	17
Thermometer	Thermometer	4
	Display	2
	Earpiece/sheath	13
	Handle	12
	TempaDot	2
	Tip and lens	4

BP, blood pressure.

Table S8Full details of the decontamination protocols retrieved for 15 selected objects (see Methods) and their subcategories (see Table S8)

Object	Standard cleaning	Responsibility	Frequency
	Detergent and water	Cleaning/domestic staff	Between patients
	Disinfectant spray		
	Disinfectant wipes	Midwives, nurses	Between uses
	Detergent and water	Cleaning/domestic staff	Weekly
	Detergent and water	Cleaning/domestic staff	Daily
	1000 ppm chlorine solution, dump dust	Service provider	At each shift
	Detergent and water, detergent wipe	Facilities staff, healthcare support workers, nurses	Between patients
	Detergent and water, detergent wipe		Between patients
		Cleaning/domestic staff	Daily
	Disinfectant wipes	Cleaning/domestic staff	Weekly
			Daily
Bed frame	Detergent and water	Cleaning/domestic staff, nurses	Daily
Bod Hume	Detergent and water, detergent wipe		Daily
	Disinfectant wipes		Daily
	Disinfectant wipes	Clinical staff	Between patients
	Detergent and water, disinfectant wipes		
	1000 ppm chlorine solution		
	Detergent and water, detergent wipe	Cleaning/domestic staff, clinical staff	Daily
	Disinfectant wipes		
	Disinfectant wipes		Between patients
	1000 ppm chlorine solution		Between patients
	Detergent and water, detergent wipe		Daily
	Detergent and water, detergent wipe	Cleaning/domestic staff, clinical staff	Daily
	Detergent and water, detergent wipe		Daily
Bed table	Disinfectant wipes		
	Disinfectant wipes	Cleaning/domestic staff, nurses	Between uses
		Service provider	Before and after uses
	Detergent and water	Cleaning/domestic staff	Daily

Object	Standard cleaning	Responsibility	Frequency
	Disinfectant wipes, dispose	Nurses	Between patients
	Disinfectant wipes		
	Disinfectant wipes		Between patients
	Detergent wipe, dispose		Between patients
	Dispose	Healthcare worker	Between patients
	Disinfectant wipes	Ward staff	Weekly
	Detergent wipe, dispose		Between patients
	Detergent wipe, laundry		When required
	Disinfectant wipes		Between patients
	Disinfectant wipes		1
Blood pressure cuff			Between uses
Blood pressure curr	Disinfectant wipes	Clinical staff	Between uses
	Disinfectant spray,		Between patients
	disinfectant wipes		1
	Manufacturer instructions	Clinician, nurses	Between uses
	Disinfectant wipes, manufacturer instructions	Clinician, nurses	Between uses
	Disinfectant wipes	Ward staff	Between uses
	Detergent wipe, disinfectant wipes	Healthcare support workers, medical staff, nurses	Between uses
	Disinfectant wipes		
	1000 ppm chlorine solution		
	Disinfectant spray		Between uses
	Detergent and water	Nurses	Between patients
	Disinfectant wipes		Between uses
	Detergent and water, detergent wipe		Between uses
	Sporicidal wipes	Cleaning/domestic staff, healthcare worker	Between uses
	Sporicidal wipes	Clinical staff	Between uses
Commode		Nurses	Between uses
Commode	Disinfectant wipes	Nurses	Between uses
	1000 ppm chlorine solution		Between uses
	1000 ppm chlorine solution, detergent and water	Nurses	Between uses
	Disinfectant wipes		
	Detergent and water	Ward staff	Between uses
	1000 ppm chlorine solution	Clinical staff	Between uses
	Chlorine wipes		Between uses

Object	Standard cleaning	Responsibility	Frequency
			Between uses
	Sporicidal wipes		Between uses
	Disinfectant wipes	Nurses	Between uses
	Detergent and water	Facilities staff, healthcare support workers, nurses	Between uses
		Nurses	Between uses
	1000 ppm chlorine solution		Between patients
	Disinfectant wipes		Daily
	Disinfectant wipes	Nurses	Daily
	Disinfectant wipes		Daily
	_	Nurses	Weekly
	Detergent and water, detergent wipe	Cleaning/domestic staff, clinical staff, ward clerks	Daily
	Disinfectant wipes, manufacturer instructions	Cleaning/domestic staff, nurses	Daily
Computer	Detergent wipe	Allied healthcare professionals, estates, facilities staff, healthcare support workers, medical staff, nurses, physiotherapists, visitors	Weekly
	Detergent wipe, manufacturer instructions		Daily
	Disinfectant wipes	Clinical staff	Daily
	Detergent and water, detergent wipe, dump dust	Service provider, ward clerks	Daily
	Dump dust	Users	Weekly
	Detergent wipe	Ward staff	Weekly
	Detergent and water	Cleaning/domestic staff	Weekly
	Detergent and water		Daily
	Detergent and water, detergent wipe		Between patients
	Detergent and water, detergent wipe		Between patients
	Detergent and water, disinfectant wipes		Between uses
	Disinfectant wipes		Twice per day
	Disinfectant wipes	Nurses	Between patients
	Detergent and water, detergent wipe	Allied healthcare professionals, healthcare support workers, medical staff, nurses	Before and after uses

Object	Standard cleaning	Responsibility	Frequency
	Detergent and water,		
	disinfectant wipes		
	Disinfectant wipes	Nurses	Weekly
	Disinfectant wipes	Ward staff	Between uses
	Disinfectant wipes	Clinical staff	Between patients
	1000 ppm chlorine solution, detergent and water, disinfectant wipes	Clinical staff	Between uses
	Detergent and water, disinfectant wipes	Nurses	Between patients
	Disinfectant wipes		
	Detergent and water	Clinician, nurses	Between patients
	Detergent and water, detergent wipe		Daily
	Detergent and water, detergent wipe		Daily
	Detergent and water		Daily
		Service provider	
	Detergent and water, detergent wipe	Cleaning/domestic staff	
Floor	1000 ppm chlorine solution, dump dust		
	Detergent and water	Facilities staff	
			Twice per day
	1000 ppm chlorine solution, detergent and water		Daily
		Cleaning/domestic staff	Daily
	Dump dust		Daily
	Dump dust		Weekly
Floor (carpets)	Detergent and water	Cleaning/domestic staff	Weekly
		Cleaning/domestic staff	Daily
		Service provider	
			Weekly
	Detergent and water, dump dust	Cleaning/domestic staff	Weekly
	Detergent and water, dump dust	Cleaning/domestic staff	Daily
Floor (non-slip)	Detergent and water		
	Detergent and water, dump dust	Cleaning/domestic staff	Daily
	Detergent and water, dump dust		Weekly
Floor (polished)	Detergent and water		

Object	Standard cleaning	Responsibility	Frequency
	Detergent and water, dump dust		Weekly
	Detergent and water, dump dust	Cleaning/domestic staff	Daily
	Detergent and water, dump dust	Cleaning/domestic staff	Weekly
	Detergent and water, dump dust	Cleaning/domestic staff	Daily
Floor (thootro)	1000 ppm chlorine solution		Between uses
Floor (theatre)	1000 ppm chlorine solution		
	Detergent and water, detergent wipe	Clinical staff	Daily
			Daily
	Disinfectant wipes	Clinical staff	Daily
		Service provider	
	Detergent and water	Cleaning/domestic staff	Daily
Hand gel dispenser		Nurses	Between patients
	Disinfectant wipes	Nurses	Between patients
	Detergent and water	Cleaning/domestic staff	Daily
	Detergent wipe		Daily
		Cleaning/domestic staff	Daily
	Detergent and water, detergent wipe		Daily
	Disinfectant wipes	Nurses	Between uses
	Detergent and water, detergent wipe		Between patients
	1000 ppm chlorine solution		
	Detergent and water, detergent wipe		Between patients
	Detergent and water	Nurses	Between uses
	Disinfectant wipes	Clinical staff	Between patients
Mattress (pressure	Disinfectant wipes	Nurses	Between patients
relieving)	Detergent and water, disinfectant wipes	Ward staff	Between uses
	Disinfectant wipes	Nurses	Weekly
	Detergent and water, detergent wipe		Between patients
	Detergent and water, detergent wipe		Between patients
	1000 ppm chlorine solution		
	Manufacturer instructions	Allied healthcare professionals, facilities staff,	Between patients

Standard cleaning	Responsibility	Frequency
	healthcare support workers, nurses	
Disinfectant wipes		Between patients
Detergent and water	Ward staff	Between uses
Detergent and water	Cleaning/domestic staff	Between patients
Detergent and water, disinfectant wipes		
Detergent and water, detergent wipe		Between patients
1000 ppm chlorine solution, detergent and water, detergent wipe		Between patients
Detergent and water	Nurses	Between uses
1000 ppm chlorine solution		Between patients
Disinfectant wipes		Between patients
Disinfectant wipes		
Disinfectant wipes		Between patients
Disinfectant wipes	Nurses	Between patients
Detergent and water, detergent wipe		Between patients
Detergent and water, detergent wipe		Between patients
Detergent and water	Allied healthcare professionals, facilities staff, healthcare support workers, nurses	Between patients
Detergent and water	Clinical staff	
Disinfectant wipes	Clinical staff	Between patients
1000 ppm chlorine solution		
Disinfectant wipes	Clinical staff	Daily
Detergent and water, detergent wipe		Weekly
Disinfectant wipes	Nurses	Between patients
	Service provider	
Disinfectant wipes, manufacturer instructions	Nurses	Between patients
	Nurses	Between patients
Disinfectant wipes		•
Detergent wipe		Between patients
		Daily
Disinfectant wipes	Nurses	Between uses
Detergent wipe, disinfectant wipes		
	Disinfectant wipes Detergent and water Detergent and water, disinfectant wipes Detergent and water, detergent wipe 1000 ppm chlorine solution, detergent wipe Detergent and water 1000 ppm chlorine solution Disinfectant wipes Disinfectant wipes Disinfectant wipes Disinfectant wipes Detergent and water, detergent wipe Detergent and water, detergent wipe Detergent and water, detergent wipe Detergent and water Detergent and water detergent wipe Detergent and water Disinfectant wipes Dotergent and water Disinfectant wipes Detergent wipe Disinfectant wipes Detergent wipe Disinfectant wipes Detergent wipe Disinfectant wipes Detergent wipe Disinfectant wipes Detergent wipe	healthcare support workers, nurses Disinfectant wipes Detergent and water Detergent and water Detergent and water, disinfectant wipes Detergent and water, detergent wipe Dotop pm chlorine solution Disinfectant wipes Disinfectant wipes Disinfectant wipes Detergent and water, detergent and water, detergent wipe Disinfectant wipes Disinfectant wipes Disinfectant wipes Detergent and water, detergent wipe Detergent and water Detergent and water Clinical staff Disinfectant wipes Disinfectant wipes Clinical staff Disinfectant wipes Disinfectant wipes Clinical staff Detergent and water, detergent wipe Disinfectant wipes Clinical staff Disinfectant wipes Clinical staff Detergent and water, detergent wipe Disinfectant wipes Disinfectant wipes Nurses Service provider Nurses Disinfectant wipes Detergent wipe Disinfectant wipes Disinfectant wipes Detergent wipe Disinfectant wipes Detergent wipe,

Object	Standard cleaning	Responsibility	Frequency
	Disinfectant wipes	Clinical staff	Between patients
	Detergent wipe, manufacturer instructions	Healthcare support workers, medical staff, nurses	Between patients
		Nurses	Daily
	Disinfectant wipes		Between uses
	Disinfectant wipes		
	Disinfectant wipes		Between uses
	Disinfectant wipes		
	Disinfectant wipes	Clinician, nurses	Between patients
	Detergent wipe		Daily
	Detergent wipe	Healthcare support workers, medical staff, nurses	Between uses
	Disinfectant wipes	Ward staff	Between uses
Sphygmomanometer	Disinfectant wipes, manufacturer instructions	Clinician, nurses	Between uses
	Disinfectant wipes		Between patients
	Detergent wipe		Daily
	Disinfectant spray, disinfectant wipes		Between patients
	Manufacturer instructions	Clinician, nurses	Between patients
	Disinfectant wipes	Clinical staff	Between patients
	Disinfectant wipes		
Sphygmomanometer (case)	Disinfectant wipes		
	Disinfectant wipes		
	Detergent wipe		Before and after uses
	Disinfectant wipes		Between uses
	Detergent wipe, disinfectant wipes		
	Detergent and water		Between patients
	Detergent wipe		Between patients
Stethoscope	Alcohol wipes	Allied healthcare professionals, clinician, nurses	Between patients
	Disinfectant wipes	Clinical staff	Between patients
	Detergent wipe	Healthcare support workers, medical staff, nurses	Between uses
	Detergent wipe	Ward staff	Between uses
	Disinfectant wipes	Allied healthcare professionals, clinician, nurses	Between patients

Object	Standard cleaning	Responsibility	Frequency
	70% alcohol, 2% chlorhexidine wipes, alcohol wipes		Between patients
	Alcohol wipes		Between patients
	Disinfectant wipes	Clinician	Between uses
	Disinfectant wipes		Between patients
	Detergent wipe		Between uses
	1000 ppm chlorine solution, detergent and water		Between patients
Thermometer (general)	Detergent wipe, disinfectant wipes		
			Between uses
	Manufacturer instructions	Clinician, nurses	Between uses
Thermometer	Detergent wipe		Daily
(display)	Detergent wipe		When required
	Dispose		Between uses
	Dispose		
	Dispose		Between uses
	Dispose	Clinician, nurses	Between uses
	Dispose		Between uses
	Dispose		Between uses
Thermometer	Dispose		Between uses
(earpiece/sheath)	Dispose	Clinical staff	Between uses
	Dispose		Between uses
	Dispose	Healthcare support workers, medical staff, nurses	Between uses
	Dispose		Between uses
	Dispose		Between uses
	Dispose		Between uses
Thermometer (handle)	Disinfectant wipes	Clinical staff	Weekly
	Detergent wipe	Healthcare support workers, medical staff, nurses	Before and after uses
	Alcohol wipes, Manufacturer Instructions	Clinician, nurses	Between patients
	Disinfectant wipes		
	Disinfectant wipes	Nurses	Between uses
	Manufacturer instructions		Between uses
	Detergent wipe		
	Manufacturer instructions		
	Detergent wipe		Daily
	Detergent wipe		When required

Object	Standard cleaning	Responsibility	Frequency	
	Alcohol wipes			
	Disinfectant wipes		Between uses	
Thermometer (TempaDot)	Dispose		Between uses	
	Dispose		Between uses	
Thermometer (tip and lens)	Alcohol wipes		When required	
	Detergent wipe		Daily	
	Alcohol wipes		Between uses	
	Alcohol wipes, dispose		Between uses	
Tourniquet	Detergent wipe		When required	
	Manufacturer instructions	Clinician, nurses	Between patients	
	Dispose		Between uses	
	Disinfectant wipes, dispose		Between uses	
	Dispose		Between uses	
	Detergent wipe, dispose		Between uses	
	Manufacturer instructions	Clinician, nurses	Between patients	

Table S9

List of objects sharing a complete entry among multiple policies

Object	Decontamination method	Responsibility	Frequency	Number of ACOs sharing the protocol
Bath/shower	Detergent and water	Domestic staff	Daily	2
Chair	Detergent and water	Domestic staff	Weekly	2
Commode	Disinfectant wipes	Nurses	Between uses	2
Floor (non-slip)	Detergent and water, dump dust	Domestic staff	Daily	2
Floor (polished)	Detergent and water, dump dust	Domestic staff	Daily	2
Glazing (internal)	Detergent and water	Domestic staff	Weekly	2
Hand gel dispenser	Detergent and water	Domestic staff	Daily	2
Linen trolley	Disinfectant wipes	Nurses	Daily	2
Mirror	Detergent and water	Domestic staff	Daily	2
Scale	Disinfectant wipes	Nurses	Between uses	2
Sink	Detergent and water	Domestic staff	Daily	2
Toilet	Detergent and water	Domestic staff	Daily	2
Tourniquet	Manufacturer instructions	Clinician, nurses	Between patients	2
TV	Detergent and water	Domestic staff	Weekly	2
Wall	Dump dust	Domestic staff	Monthly	2
Waste bin	Detergent and water	Domestic staff	Daily	2

ACOs, acute care organizations; TV, television.

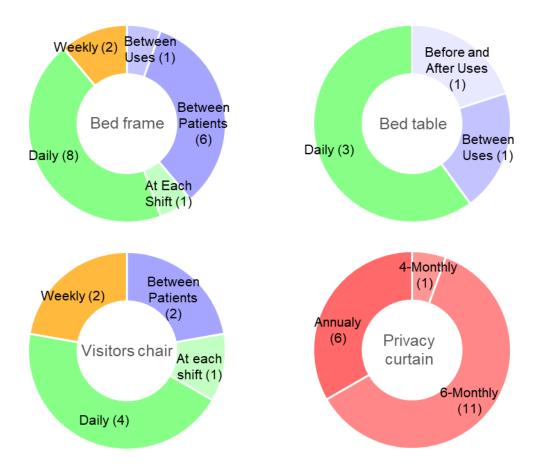


Figure S6. Decontamination frequencies retrieved from the policies obtained for the most frequently touched objects as identified by Wang *et al.* [5].

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