

CONSIDERATIONS:

1. Treat all equipment and accessories as contaminated when removed from home.
2. If clinician suspects the equipment is infested with insects (roaches), keep all equipment and accessories tightly double-bagged for 48 hours prior to cleaning or sending to vendor for cleaning.
3. Equipment may need to be disposed if unable to be rid of insects.
4. Cleaning should take place in a well-ventilated area.
5. Use care when cleaning the LCD lens to avoid scratches.
6. Keep liquid out of the open areas in and around the buttons, where the case joins, or around the openings in the telehealth monitor.
7. Never spray cleaner directly on the monitor or peripheral accessories.
8. Never immerse the equipment or accessories in water or any other liquid.

EQUIPMENT:

Plastic bag for storage

Gloves

Goggles

Soft cloth

Vendor-recommended (virucidal) disinfectant

Installation checklist

Data-clearing key, if required

PROCEDURE:

1. Removal:
 - a. Adhere to Standard Precautions
 - b. Explain procedure to patient/caregiver
 - c. Disassemble all equipment, cables and accessories
 - d. Place all components, including accessories and cables, into plastic bag. Double-bag if there are insects
 - e. Ensure bag is closed and secured tightly
 - f. Return “dirty” equipment to designated cleaning area in the home health agency
 - g. Document the equipment and accessories that were removed on installation checklist. Return checklist to telehealth nurse
2. Cleaning:
 - a. Don gloves
 - b. Don goggles if there is a chance of splashes or fumes to irritate eyes
 - c. Setup dirty and clean areas in workspace
 - d. Check bag tag for insect designation:
 - i. If present, slowly open plastic bags and look for live insects. Reclose bag if found. Wait another 48 hours
 - ii. No live insects, remove equipment for cleaning

- e. Ensure all equipment is unplugged prior to cleaning
 - f. Check for visible signs of damage, missing parts, etc. Notify telehealth manager if present. Remove from service if directed to do so
 - g. Perform cleaning procedure according to applicable OSHA regulations and manufacturer guidelines
 - h. Spray virucidal disinfectant solution onto a clean dry cloth (or use product wipes/pads) to wipe down entire outer surface of the telehealth monitor, scale, accessories, blood pressure unit, cuff and tubing
 - i. Leave solution on the surface for 1 minute or as recommended by manufacturer
 - j. Allow equipment and accessories to air dry
 - k. Dry all surfaces with a clean cloth
 - l. Attach label with cleaning date/initials
 - m. Place clean equipment in containers for storage
 - n. Return equipment that remains infested with insects to vendor for cleaning, following their instructions
 - o. Dispose of infested equipment that cannot be sent to the vendor for cleaning, following agency policy
3. Clearing of Data:
 - a. Follow specific equipment instructions related to clearing data

AFTER CARE:

1. Store cleaned units in the designated storage cabinet/area in preparation for next installation.
2. Document serial number and date available in equipment maintenance log in system program.
3. Communicate damage, missing parts or non-function to telehealth nurse.
4. Document damage and disposition in system inventory log.

REFERENCE:

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Quality Insights of Pennsylvania. (2005). *Home Telehealth Reference 2005* (TSOW-PA-HH05.151).

The Joint Commission. (2012). *Equipment Management*. In 2012 Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Home Care (p. EQ1). Oakbrook Terrace, IL: Joint Commission Resources.