Infection Prevention & Control: Mattress Checking Procedure

Cleaning & checking procedure – Operating Theatres and Outpatient departments

Non-infective Patient/ Minor surgery/low risk interventions/ No blood or body fluids present

- Clean (trolley) mattress surface between each patient
  - neutral detergent & hand hot water (or detergent wipes)
  - dry thoroughly

Infective Patient/major surgery/blood or body spillage

- Clean (trolley) mattress on patient discharge:
  - Use Chlorclean 1,000ppm chlorine solution (Hos-Tab 10,000ppm chlorine solution if blood/amniotic fluid)
  - Allow to air dry

Between each patient (during cleaning) – visually inspect the mattress cover. Any external damage noted?

Replace cover and/or mattress if practical (* temporary repair permitted in Theatres ONLY if risk assessment documented in line with local policy)

DAILY – where mattress design allows-unzip mattress cover fully and check:

Any internal staining on cover

- Replace cover

Staining on foam core

Staining ≥ 8 cm across OR visible blood staining

- YES
  - Replace foam core

Staining on zip line only

- NO
  - Complete risk assessment form & retain mattress core