

# DISINFECTION OF BLOOD GLUCOSE METERS

COMPLYING WITH CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES (CMS)  
INTERPRETIVE GUIDELINES FOR LONG TERM CARE TAG F441

## ISSUE

- Patient-to-patient transmission of Hepatitis B virus (HBV) and Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) during the delivery of healthcare services has increasingly been reported in the U.S.<sup>1</sup>
- Persons receiving diabetes care in Long Term Care Facilities (LTCF) have been identified as one risk group due to multiple persons undergoing daily blood glucose testing, and the sharing of blood glucose meters between multiple residents.<sup>2</sup>
- Indirect transmission of Hepatitis B (HBV) in healthcare settings through contaminated environmental surfaces or inadequately disinfected equipment has been reported.<sup>3</sup>
- Compliance with CMS Tag F441; Properly cleaning and disinfecting shared glucometers, to eliminate HBV, HCV, HIV or TB.

## UNDERSTANDING CMS TAG F441

- CMS Tag F441 are the interpretive guidelines for infection control programs for Long Term Care Facilities (LTCF). This document is used for guidance by the surveyors to investigate compliance of F441 for every initial certification and recertification survey, as well as complaint investigations.<sup>4</sup>
- Lack of compliance with these regulations can result in facilities facing penalties based on the severity of the citation.<sup>5</sup>
- An example of an Immediate Jeopardy citation is the practice of not cleaning and disinfecting glucometers between every shared use and re-using glucometer lancets.<sup>6</sup>
- Reducing and/or preventing infections through indirect contact require the decontamination of resident equipment, medical devices, and the environment. Facilities can consider the use of single-use disposable devices, and choose the decontamination method depending on the risk of infection to the resident coming into contact with the equipment or medical devices<sup>7</sup>

## CHOOSING THE RIGHT SOLUTION

- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and CMS Tag F441, cleaning and disinfection of blood glucose meters between shared resident uses can prevent transmission of the viruses through indirect contact.
- An EPA registered healthcare disinfectant that is effective against HBV, HCV, HIV or TB is recommended for disinfection of noncritical medical equipment surfaces.<sup>8</sup>
- Disinfectants must be compatible with the blood glucose device itself. Refer to device manufacturer's instructions for cleaning and disinfection.
- PDI® Super Sani-Cloth® is an EPA registered disinfectant that is effective against HBV, HCV, HIV and TB in 2 minutes!
- PDI® Super Sani-Cloth®, EPA Registration #9480-4, is listed on both EPA lists D and E.
  - List D: EPA's Registered Antimicrobial Products Effective Against Human HIV-1 and Hepatitis B Virus
  - List E: EPA's Registered Antimicrobial Products Effective Against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, Human HIV-1 and Hepatitis B
- Compliance with CMS Tag F441 is obtainable by choosing the right disinfectant solution that is supported by an established infection prevention industry partner with access to educational materials and innovative programs.
- For more information on CMS Tag F441 and PDI Product Solutions visit: <http://www.pdipdi.com/cmstagf441.aspx>

<sup>1</sup>Thompson et al. Nonhospital Health Care-Associated Hepatitis B and C Virus Transmission: United States, 1998-2008. *AIM* 2009; 150:33-39.

<sup>2,3</sup>CDC, Transmission of Hepatitis B Virus Among Persons Undergoing Blood Glucose Monitoring in Long-Term-Care Facilities- Mississippi, North Carolina, and Los Angeles County, California, 2003-2004. *MMWR*, March 11, 2005/54(09); 220-223.

<sup>4,5,6,7</sup>Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). CMS Manual System, Pub. 100-07 State Operations Provider Certification. December 2009.

<sup>8</sup>Rutala et al. HICPAC. CDC Guideline for Disinfection and Sterilization in Healthcare Facilities, 2008: 29-30.



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## THE RIGHT SOLUTION

### EPA-Registered, Hospital-Grade Disinfectant Wipes

#### SUPER SANI-CLOTH®

**Germicidal Disposable Wipe:** Bactericidal, Virucidal, Tuberculocidal

- 55% alcohol formulation
- **\*KILLS HBV, HCV, HIV, PANDEMIC 2009 INFLUENZA A (H1N1) VIRUS & MRSA IN 2 MINUTES**
- Effective against 26 microorganisms
- Kills bacteria and viruses including Vancomycin-resistant *Enterococcus faecalis* (VRE), *Escherichia coli* (E. coli), *Acinetobacter baumannii*, *Campylobacter jejuni*, *Mycobacterium bovis* BCG (Tuberculosis), Influenza A2/Hong Kong, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)
- Disinfects hard, non-porous surfaces and equipment
- EPA Registration #9480-4, List D: EPA's Registered Antimicrobial Products Effective Against Human HIV-1 and Hepatitis B Virus & List E: EPA's Registered Antimicrobial Products Effective Against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, Human HIV-1 and Hepatitis B



Q55172	H04082	Q86984	U87295
REORDER #	PACKING	WIPE SIZE	
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<b>H04082</b>	50/box, 10 boxes/case	Large	
<b>Q86984</b>	65/can, 6 cans/case	Extra-Large	
<b>U87295</b>	50/box, 3 boxes/case	Extra-Large	

## PDI® INFECTION PREVENTION PAK™

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- Promotes usage and compliance with Joint Commission National Patient Safety Goals and Elements of Performance, as well as Long Term Care National Patient Safety Goal #7



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\* Always check with equipment manufacturer for recommended disinfecting/cleaning chemicals.

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