Pathogen Transmission Risk Assessment Tool

PROTOCOLS

Please use this tool to help identify and prioritize "high-risk areas" in your facility to clean and disinfect.

Instructions

1. Determine an area you want to evaluate in terms of risk of pathogen transmission.
2. Answer the questions below and assign a risk level score (1–5).
3. Total your risk scores.
4. Prioritize areas with higher risk scores.

	Questions to determine	Choices	Risk Score	Examples	Evaluation
1	**Probability of Contamination with Pathogens** How frequently are surfaces/objects exposed to blood, other body fluids such as vomit, urine, and mucous or mold?	Routinely	5	Emergency rooms; restrooms	
		Occasionally	3	Classrooms	
		Hardly	1	Conference rooms	
2	**Vulnerability of Population to Infection** How susceptible are people occupying the space to infection?	Highly	3	Very young, very old and people with certain medical conditions	
		Slightly	1	Relatively healthy people	
3	**Potential for Exposure** Are there surfaces that are touched frequently by multiple people?	Yes	3	Door knobs, light switches, pencil sharpener	
		No	1	Ceilings, walls, shelves, individual desks	
4	**Traffic** Is the area high-traffic?	Yes	3	Classrooms, airports, breakrooms	
		No	1	Individual offices	
5	**Hygiene Access & Practices** Are supplies to practice good hygiene readily available?	abundant	1	Disinfecting wipes, hand soap and sanitizers (min. 60% alcohol), and tissues near where people congregate	
		scarce	2	No/limited disinfecting wipes, hand soap and sanitizers (min. 60% alcohol), and tissues near where people congregate	
	Actively promotes good hygiene practices	Yes	1	Signage on proper hand washing, cough etiquette, mask wearing, etc., placed in visible locations	
		No	2	No/limited signage on proper hand washing, cough etiquette, mask wearing, etc.	
	Does the area have good ventilation?	Yes	1	Well-maintained HVAC system with high-efficiency filters; able to measure indoor air quality	
		No	2	Poor ventilation system; limited access to fresh air	
	Total				

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