

Sodium Hypochlorite Bleach for The Control And Prevention of *Norovirus* & *Rotavirus* in Healthcare Facilities

The following published sources provide documentation regarding the efficacy of sodium hypochlorite solutions as a disinfectant for viruses of the genus *Norovirus* and *Rotavirus*:

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/id_norovirusFS.html

CDC recommends either chlorine bleach or U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved disinfectants for use in controlling norovirus outbreaks. ***Chlorine bleach should be applied to hard, non-porous environmental surfaces at a minimum concentration of 1,000 ppm (generally a dilution of 1 part household bleach solution to 50 parts water).*** (See Page 2)

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvrd/revb/gastro/faq.htm>

The Respiratory and Enteric Viruses Branch of the CDC website recommends the use of bleach to disinfect surfaces contaminated by viral gastroenteritis. ***Persons can reduce their chance of getting infected by frequent handwashing, prompt disinfection of contaminated surfaces with household chlorine bleach-based cleaners, and prompt washing of soiled articles of clothing.*** (See Page 3)

http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/health/phadm/PDF/noro_packet.pdf

Washington State Department of Health recommends diluted bleach to disinfect for norovirus in its Information Packet for Nursing Facilities. ***NOROVIRUS DISINFECTION STEPS WITH HOUSEHOLD BLEACH ON HARD, NONPOROUS SURFACES (i.e., floors, counters, toilets). Put on rubber, latex, vinyl, or nitrile gloves. If cleaning vomit or feces, don a mask. Thoroughly wet contaminated surface with water. With a sponge or rag, apply 10% bleach solution on contaminated surface. Hypochlorite (bleach) solution: Mix 1 ½ cups of household bleach in 1 gallon of water to make a 10% bleach solution. Allow the bleach solution to set on the surface for 10 minutes. Rinse surface with water. Allow surface to air dry. Dispose of gloves. After taking off gloves, thoroughly wash hands with soap and warm water.***