

## Sodium Hypochlorite Bleach as A Disinfectant against Human Immunodeficiency Virus

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The following published source provides documentation regarding the efficacy of sodium hypochlorite (5.25% household bleach) as a disinfectant against HIV:

<http://www.cdc.gov/od/ohs/biosfty/bleachiv.htm>

*Studies have shown that HIV is inactivated rapidly after being exposed to commonly used germicides at concentrations that are much lower than used in practice. In addition to commercially available chemical germicides, a solution of sodium hypochlorite (household bleach) prepared daily is an inexpensive and effective germicide. Concentrations ranging from approximately 500 ppm (1:100 dilution of household bleach) sodium hypochlorite to 5,000 ppm (1:10 dilution of household bleach) are effective depending on the amount of organic material (e.g., Blood, mucus) present on the surface to be cleaned and disinfected.* (Citation: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Biosafety Branch, *Recommendations for Prevention of HIV Transmission in Health-care Settings*, MMWR 1987;36(2S): p10S)

<http://www.research.northwestern.edu/ORS/labsafe/cbsl/cbsl7.htm>

Northwest University's Office of Research Safety Manual, Table 7.3B *Decontaminants and Their Use in Infectious Waste Management* lists chlorine compounds as effective against HIV.