



# CARE Program - Cleaning & Sanitization Policy

Comfort And Renewal Exchange | Bret Bigelow Foundation

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## 1. PURPOSE

Establish standardized cleaning and sanitization procedures for pajamas returned through the Foundation's CARE Program (Comfort And Renewal Exchange), ensuring safety and hygiene standards for hospital-use garments.

## 2. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

### Required PPE for all staff:

- Disposable nitrile gloves
- Fluid-resistant aprons
- Face masks (required for visibly soiled items)
- Closed-toe, fluid-resistant shoes
- Safety eyewear when using chemicals

### Work Environment:

- Designated processing area with ventilation
- Hand washing and eye wash stations
- Spill cleanup materials and sharps disposal available

## 3. SORTING AND ASSESSMENT

**Category A - Light Soiling:** Minor stains, no bodily fluids, good condition **Category B - Moderate Soiling:** Visible stains, mild odors, requires pre-treatment **Category C - Biohazard:** Blood, vomit, urine, or unknown fluids **Category D - Disposal:** Excessive damage, permanent stains >30%, fabric deterioration

## 4. CLEANING PROCEDURES

### Category A - Standard Cleaning

- Pre-treat stains with enzyme cleaner
- Wash at 160°F (71°C) with hospital-grade detergent
- High-heat dry for 30 minutes minimum

### Category B - Enhanced Cleaning

- Pre-soak in oxygen bleach for 30 minutes
- Wash at 180°F (82°C) with extended cycle
- Hospital-grade detergent plus fabric sanitizer
- Double rinse, high-heat dry for 45 minutes

## Category C - Biohazard Protocol

- Pre-soak in EPA-approved disinfectant for 1 hour
- Wash separately at 200°F (93°C) minimum
- Extended cycle (60-90 minutes) with bleach (if fabric permits)
- Triple rinse, high-heat dry for 60 minutes
- UV sanitization if available

## Category D - Disposal

- Biohazard waste bags for contaminated items
- Textile recycling for clean but damaged items
- Document disposal reason

## 5. QUALITY CONTROL

### Post-cleaning inspection for:

- Complete stain removal
- Odor elimination
- Fabric integrity
- Proper sizing/labeling

**Re-processing:** Maximum 2 attempts; dispose if unsuccessful

## 6. MAINTENANCE & TRAINING

**Daily:** Clean surfaces, sanitize bins, check equipment temperatures **Weekly:** Deep clean machines, sanitize area, inventory supplies **Monthly:** Professional servicing, audit supplies, review protocols

**Staff Training:** Bloodborne pathogen certification, chemical safety, PPE protocols, emergency procedures

## 7. DOCUMENTATION

### Required Records:

- Daily processing logs
- Equipment temperature logs
- Quality control results
- Training records
- Incident reports

**Retention:** Processing logs (2 years), Training (3 years), Incidents (7 years)

## 8. EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

**Exposure Incidents:** First aid, document, medical evaluation, report within 2 hours **Equipment Failure:** Stop processing, isolate items, contact maintenance, document