



Better for mum, Better for baby

Guidance on Cleaning your CUB

The purpose of this guidance is to provide information on the effective decontamination processes for the CUB.

What is the CUB?

The CUB is an inflatable class 1 medical device that is designed to be used by women during late pregnancy, labour and birth as a comfort support and positioning aid. This is similar to birth balls, bean bags, birth stools and cushions or pillows. Its rationale lies in the extensive research base on the clinical advantages for mothers and babies in utero of women adopting non-supine positions during labour and birth. These positions include kneeling, all fours, squatting and upright sitting. The CUB may, or may not be, used during the birth itself and may or may not come into contact with contamination of body fluids, depending on when it is used and the position the mother adopts for the birth itself.

What is the CUB made of?

The CUB is manufactured from PVC which is the same material as many hospital chair seats and hospital bed mattresses. PVC is commonly used in healthcare for screening, diagnosis, treatment and care, as well as in building safe healthcare environments. In fact, nearly 30% of all plastic-based medical devices are made of PVC. Whenever plastics are used in direct contact with the patient's tissue or blood, a high degree of compatibility is essential between the tissue/blood and the material. PVC is characterized by high biocompatibility. PVC is compatible with virtually all pharmaceutical products in healthcare facilities today.

It also has excellent water and chemical resistance. Not only does PVC offer the flexibility necessary for applications such as blood bags, mattresses or intravenous (IV) tubing, but it can also be relied upon for its strength and durability, even under changing temperatures and conditions. These properties are essential to provide convenience in use by healthcare professionals and performance thereby benefiting patient comfort and quality hospital care.

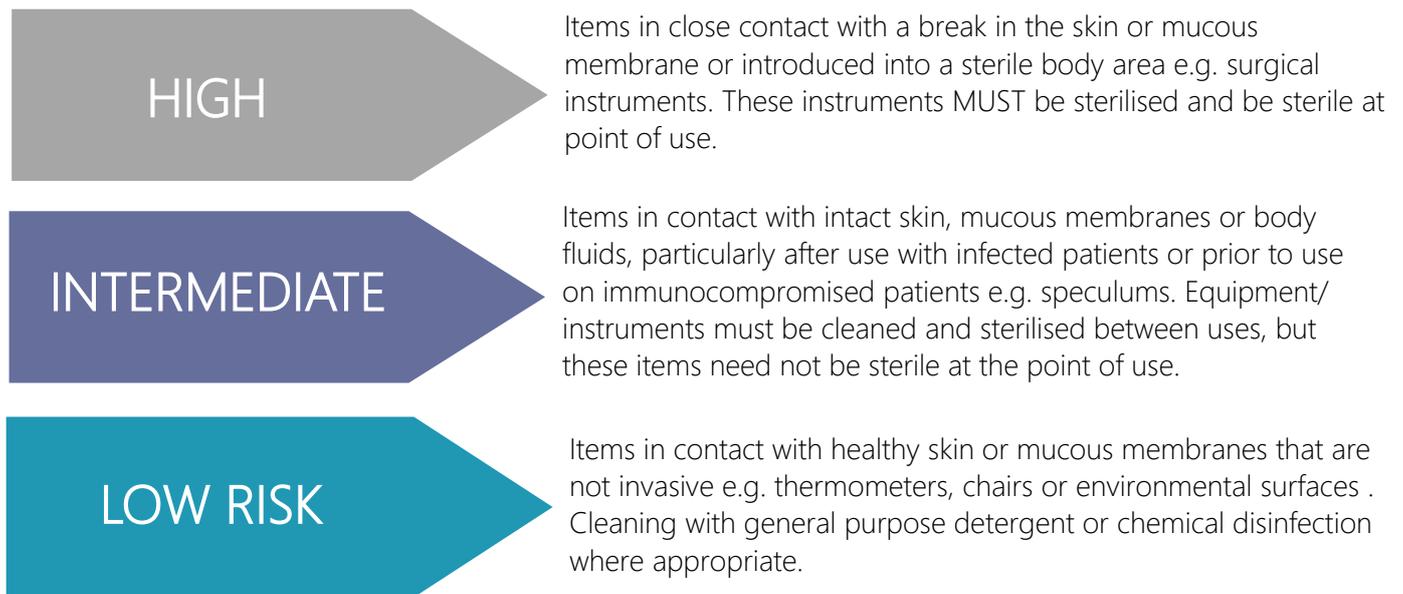
CUB Risk Assessment

The CUB is a low risk product in terms of potential for cross infection.

This risk assessment is based on the criteria used below from The Medicines Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), formerly the Medical Devices Agency. The MHRA produced this risk assessment tool that categorises the risk an instrument or equipment being used poses to an individual based on the area of the body on or in which it has been used.



Risk assessment tool



We recommend chemical cleaning of the CUB between each user Suitable cleaning agents

(Definition of terms)

Contamination. Defined as the soiling of inanimate objects or living material with harmful, potentially infectious substances. In the clinical situation this is most likely to be organic matter (e.g. blood, faeces etc.)

Decontamination of the CUB. As a reusable medical device the CUB can be used for more than one episode but should always undergo some form of decontamination process between each user. The decontamination should consist of the cleaning and disinfection process below.

Sterilisation of the CUB. The CUB is a low risk product in terms of potential for cross infection and as such does not require a sterilisation process. This risk assessment is based on the criteria used from The Medicines Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), formally the Medical Devices Agency.

The decontamination process for the CUB

We recommend that a clean, disposable incontinence sheet is placed onto the CUB if the mother is sitting on it and has any PV loss that may come into direct contact with the CUB .

The CUB should be thoroughly cleaned between users using the process below.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves and aprons should be worn during the cleaning process.



While the CUB is still inflated:

Rinse off all visible surface contamination with a clean, disposable cloth and water; paying attention to the area around the seams and valves and including the base. There should be no visible contamination left.

Dry the CUB with a clean disposable cloth, such as household kitchen towel or paper hand towels.

Spray or wipe with an antibacterial cleaner, a bleach solution or wipe thoroughly with antibacterial household cleaning wipes.

Allow the CUB to air dry completely before deflating and storing.

The CUB is manufactured from PVC which is the same material as many hospital chair seats and obstetric bed mattresses.

A suitable cleaner includes any cleaner currently utilised in the work place that is used for general cleaning of patient beds, commodes or chairs, these include makes of: Antibacterial spray or wipes
Sporicidal spray or wipes Hypochlorite.

Legislation & Guidance

- Microbiology Advisory Committee to the Department of Health (1997) *Sterilisation, Disinfection and Cleaning of Medical Equipment: Guidance on Decontamination* Medical Devices Agency
- Department of Health. (2009). *Health Technical Memorandum 01-01: Decontamination of reusable medical devices*. Department of Health. London
- epic3: *National Evidence-Based Guidelines for Preventing Healthcare-Associated Infections in NHS Hospitals in England* H.P. Loveday, *Journal of Hospital Infection* 86S1 (2014) S1–S70
- Microbiology Advisory Committee to the Department of Health (1997) *Sterilisation, Disinfection and Cleaning of Medical Equipment: Guidance on Decontamination* Medical Devices Agency.
- Health and Safety Executive (1992) *Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations: Guidance on Regulations*. The Stationary Office, London. Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations 2002. Medical Devices Agency (August 2000) *Single Use Medical Devices: Implications and Consequences of Re-use*
- The Health and Social Care Act 2008 *Code of Practice for the NHS on the prevention and control of healthcare associated infections and related guidance*
- Royal College of Nursing. (2011). *The Selection and use of disinfectant wipes*. London
- Royal College of Nursing. (2013). *Creating a safe environment for care*. Defining the relationship between cleaning and nursing staff. London



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