



Manikin Decontamination and Use

While infection risk is extremely low, it is vitally important to prevent the spread of infectious disease through manikin use. Manikins should be cleaned and disinfected carefully and consistently.

Before each class inspect manikins

Inspect the manikins for cracks or rips in the face that make it difficult or impossible to clean the manikin properly. Do not use any manikin that has cracks or rips in the face.

During class follow proper procedures

To help minimize the already low risk of disease transmission during mouth-to-mouth training on a manikin:

- Students should not participate in training sessions if they are sick or believe that they have been recently exposed to an infectious disease.
- During the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the Red Cross is changing its training structure so that all students will work on their own manikin while maintaining the CDC recommended six feet of social distancing.
- Students should wash their hands for at least 20 seconds before and after working with the manikin.
- Students should not eat or drink during manikin use.
- Students should use their own breathing barrier, each time they practice on the manikin.
- Manikins must be properly cleaned between users (even when breathing barriers are used) complying with cleaning product manufacturer instructions.

Between each student use the manikin should be cleaned:

- Follow manikin manufacturers' guidelines for cleaning/decontaminating manikins between each student use.



- Some manikins have disposable plastic bags that protrude from the mouth, covering the manikin's face. Others have individual manikin faces that are applied at the time of practice.
- When using a commercial product for cleaning manikins between use follow the directions provided by the manufacturer of the cleaning product, including the amount of time to keep the surface wet and then let dry. The commercial product used should be approved for bacterial, viral and other common pathogens.
- Some facilities may choose to use a bleach solution to clean manikins. If you use a bleach solution, follow manufacturer's recommendations regarding handling and ventilation. Bleach can be diluted for this purpose by using 1/3 cup of unexpired bleach per gallon of water. Use a clean, absorbent material (e.g., 4" × 4" gauze) wet with the bleach solution. The surfaces should remain wet for at least 1 minute

After each class, mark the manikin as dirty and then properly clean and disinfect manikins as soon as possible. Once cleaned and disinfected, mark the manikin as clean:

- Always wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) based on standard precautions and recommended in the manufacturers' guidance for cleaning and disinfectant products. For a chlorine bleach solution for after-class cleaning, follow manufacturer's recommendations regarding handling and ventilation. Always clean manikins in a well-ventilated area.
- Remove any clothing from the manikin.
- Follow manufacturer's recommendations for disassembly.
- Remove lungs.
- To properly decontaminate a manikin, use an approved commercial disinfectant product approved for bacterial, viral and other common pathogens or a chlorine bleach solution (1/3 cup unexpired bleach per gallon of water).
- Additional supplies for decontamination include gauze pads, a bottle brush, soap and water, basins or buckets, nonlatex disposable gloves (such as vinyl or nitrile), and any other supplies recommended by the manikin manufacturer.
- After the end of each class session, replace or clean the manikin's head, airway passages and any other parts indicated as per manufacturer's directions.
 - In the absence of specific manufacturer directions an accepted general approach to after class cleaning/disinfections is as follows:



1. Wash all external surfaces with warm, soapy water. Vigorously scrubbing manikin parts with soap and water is as important as soaking them in the bleach solution.
 2. Rinse with clean water.
 3. Decontaminate by wetting all surfaces with a commercial solution per manufacturer's guidance. If using a bleach solution, decontaminate for 10 minutes. Allow to dry.
 4. Rinse with fresh water.
 5. Dry all internal and external surfaces.
- Clean all surfaces per the manufacturer's directions. For cleaning use approved cleaning/disinfectant wipes, solutions or sprays that are appropriate for the surfaces to be cleaned.
 - Launder items as appropriate in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. If possible, launder items using the warmest appropriate water setting for the items and dry items completely.
 - Replace the lungs and reassemble manikin per the manufacturer's directions.
 - Indicate that the manikin has been cleaned.