



Ebola transmission - what precautions can you take?

Ebola Disinfectant Facts

People are getting nervous about the Ebola epidemic in Africa, especially as it lands in the US. This nervousness leads to thoughts about what precautions we can take to reduce the probability of transmission and what disinfectants may be effective.

Beware of product manufacturers' untested claims to their products' assumed effectiveness against the Ebola virus. True testing requires the acquisition of the virus which currently represents a problem for several reasons. In fact, some manufacturers are misleading you into believing that by using their product you are safe. Here's the official word from the [Centers for Disease Control](#) website:

"There are no disinfection products with specific label claims against the Ebola virus. Enveloped viruses such as Ebola are susceptible to a broad range of hospital disinfectants used to disinfect hard, non-porous surfaces. In contrast, non-enveloped viruses are more resistant to disinfectants. As an added precaution, use a disinfectant with a

higher potency than what is normally required for an enveloped virus to disinfect potentially Ebola-contaminated surfaces. ***EPA-registered hospital disinfectants with label claims against non-enveloped viruses (e.g., norovirus, rotavirus, adenovirus, poliovirus) are broadly antiviral and capable of inactivating both enveloped and non-enveloped viruses.***"

[Microban Germicidal Cleaner](#)

[Concentrate](#) (GCC) is known to be effective against harder-to-kill non-enveloped viruses, such as norovirus, rotavirus and adenovirus. GCC is a hospital grade, disinfectant, detergent concentrate available in lemon and mint fragrances.

[Microban BotaniClean](#) is a one-step cleaner and hospital-grade disinfectant that kills rotavirus.

It is always a good practice to use a general purpose cleaner to remove the majority of the body fluid spills. In some cases, sadly, the patient experiences extreme vomiting, diarrhea, and bleeding so large amounts of fluids have to be removed. DegreaseAll is extremely effective at blood removal. Once the surface is visibly clean, then disinfection with Microban GCC is the final step.

Beyond disinfectant use, should an Ebola decontamination become necessary, get expert help and absolutely use extreme precautions and full PPE. The scope of

these precautions is beyond the intent of this information.

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