

Cleaning of Imaging Displays

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Imaging Physics

CancerCare Manitoba

Purpose

This document applies to displays used to view medical images including those present on the modality (scanner) as well as ones used by radiologists and other care providers. These displays normally accumulate finger prints, splashed food, dust and dirt that interferes with image interpretation and is otherwise objectionable. We have found that manufacture's recommendations can be vague and often neglect the requirement for disinfection.

Cleaners

Cleaners must not harm the display and also meet the requirements of infection control. Consequently, isopropyl alcohol is recommended for cleaning. In general, accelerated hydrogen peroxide products are not recommended unless the manufacturer of the display states otherwise.

Cleaning the display

Three steps are required to properly clean a display. Note that displays may be damaged by applying excessive force, so please be gentle. In some cases, steps 1 and 2 need to be repeated to properly clean the display.

1 remove heavy dirt

The displays often have a layer of dirt that is not easily cleaned with isopropyl alcohol. In this case use a very soft cloth moistened with distilled water to clean the display. For convenience, the EasyWipe product (5768748) by Diversity works well.

2 remove oils and disinfect

Wipes pre-moistened with 70% isopropyl alcohol work well to remove fingerprints and disinfect the display. Specifically recommended are those produced by Fisherbrand, catalogue number 06-665-24. One could also use Loris antiseptic alcohol pads, catalogue number 104-01 (their smaller pads 103-03 are more common but are likely too small).

3 remove streaks

The 70% isopropyl alcohol will often leave residual streaks on the display. Use a clean microfibre cloth to remove any remaining streaks. This method works best for displays that have a glass surface such as the large ones made by Barco. To avoid scratching the display, a microfibre cloth should not be used once it is noticeably dirty or may contain sand or grit. It is up to the site whether to launder or replace the microfibre cloths.

Where to go for help?

Imaging Physics at CancerCare Manitoba provides physics testing for diagnostic imaging systems, and can assist diagnostic imaging departments in setting up quality control programs, training staff to

perform quality control tests and identifying appropriate quality control tools. You can contact Imaging Physics at Imaging.Physics@cancercare.mb.ca or by calling 204-787-4145.