

# ISSA Tips Sheet

February 7, 2020

## Recommendations for RISK ASSESSMENT for the Cleaning and Forensic Restoration Industry in Response to 2019nCoV (Wuhan Coronavirus)

When preparing to clean, sanitize, and disinfect any space, an area or site risk assessment should be completed.

Global Biorisk Advisory Council® (GBAC) trained professionals follow a protocol. While we recognize that all jobs are not the same and that on some jobs a step of the protocol may not need to be performed, we train that you should always mentally go through each step. As an example, step four may not be necessary if there is no bio-load present (i.e. vomit, blood, etc).

1. Incident Site Risk Assessment
2. Pre-Bio Test
3. Pre-disinfect
4. Load Reduction
5. Forensic Cleaning
6. Post Site Assessment / Post-Bio Test
7. Final Disinfection

Summary of the GBAC Detailed Response Protocol:

### 1. Incident Site Risk Assessment

In training we say, "It starts with a phone call." When you are called upon to clean, sanitize, and disinfect a space, you need to gather as much information as you can prior to going to the site. This will help you define the needs of the job. The **incident site risk assessment** helps you address questions such as but not limited to:

- What equipment do you need?
- What cleaning and disinfection solutions will you need? How much?
- Do you have the correct personal protective equipment for the job?

Once on site, you will need to establish the clear zone, the transition zone, and the operating zone. This is very important for infection/contamination control.

### 2. Pre-Bio-Test

When and where applicable perform a pre-biotest. As an example, in some situations the use of an ATP Meter to determine the initial state of cleanliness is appropriate.

### 3. Pre-Disinfecting

If you are in a situation where there is a lot of contamination and load reduction will be completed, a pre-disinfection step where you spray (for example) disinfectant may be completed. This knocks down the viral or bacterial contamination prior to entering the site.

**4. Load Reduction**

Load reduction is an effective means of the proper removal and disposal of gross biocontamination. Load reduction is needed when the biological contamination is present.

**5. Detailed Forensic Cleaning**

- a. Vertical and horizontal surfaces are cleaned.
- b. Linear overlapping strokes via mechanical action (by hand). No circular motions and no scrubbing.
- c. With forensic cleaning this is typically taught as a two-step process. First with a dry towel (preferably microfiber) and then repeated with a detergent cleaning solution.

**6. Complete a Post-Bio Test**

Determine ahead of time how you will validate your cleaning, sanitization, and disinfection process. Will you use ATP meters or another method for validation?

**7. Post Disinfection – *Extremely important step.***

Again, the use of an appropriate disinfectant that is applicable for the infectious agent must be used. Sprayers, foggers, electrostatic sprayers are very helpful in this step.

View the GBAC Tip Sheet on using personal protective equipment [here](#).

**Other links of interest:**

- [Coronavirus: Prevention and Control for the Cleaning Industry](#)
- [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) 2019 Novel Coronavirus Situation Summary](#)
- [World Health Organization \(WHO\) Novel Coronavirus Coverage](#)

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