

Diaper Changing Procedure for the Environment Rating Scales

The following measures are essential to cut down on the spread of gastro-intestinal illness and should be considered when scoring this item. The provider should:

1. Prepare for diapering/changing soiled clothing
 - To minimize contamination outside of the changing area
 - One diaper-changing area should be selected and used consistently.
 - The diaper changing area should be physically separated from the food preparation and serving areas, including separate sinks. If the same sink must be used for more than diapering/toileting, faucet handles, and sink should be sanitized with a bleach and water solution after diapering/ toileting use.
 - The diapering surface must be non-porous, so it can be sanitized after each diaper change with a bleach/water solution (i.e., no cloth quilted pads or fabric safety straps, no containers stored on the diapering surface).
 - If paper is used to cover the changing surface, it should be long enough to cover from the child's shoulders to heels (in case it becomes soiled and must be folded over to give a clean surface during the change).
 - To prepare for a change before bringing the child to area, have ready
 - Enough wipes for the change (including wiping the bottom and hands after removing the soiled diaper/clothing) removed from the box.
 - A clean diaper or underwear, plastic bag for soiled clothes, and clean clothes if soiled clothing is changed.
 - Non-porous gloves if they will be used, and a dab of diaper cream on a disposable piece of paper or tissue if cream is being used.
2. Follow diapering/changing procedure
 - Prepare for changing as indicated above.
 - Place child on changing surface. Remove clothing to access diaper or soiled clothing. If soiled, place clothes into plastic bag.
 - Remove soiled diaper and place into lined, hands-free trash container. Clothing must be sealed in a plastic bag without being rinsed and sent home.
 - Use wipes to clean child's bottom from front to back.
 - Use a wipe to remove soil from adult's hands.
 - Use another wipe to remove soil from child's hands.
 - Throw soiled wipes into lined, hands-free trash container.
 - Put on clean diaper or underwear and redress child.
 - Move child to sink and wash hands following the "handwashing procedure."
 - Spray diapering surface with a soap-water solution to clean. Wipe dry with disposable towel.
 - Spray diapering surface with bleach-water solution and wait at least 2 minutes before wiping with disposable towel or allow to air dry. The surface cannot be sprayed and immediately wiped.
 - Wash own hands using the "handwashing procedure," without contaminating any other surface.
3. Take additional precautions for diapering/toileting
 - Toilets must be flushed after each use.
 - Floors/other surfaces that become contaminated must be sanitized.
 - Toys that are played with or objects that are touched during diapering/toileting must be put aside to be sanitized.
 - Other surfaces should not be contaminated during changing or toileting unless properly sanitized. For example, if child is changed on a pad on the floor, soiled diaper should not be placed on floor unless floor is sanitized afterwards.

** Note: Provider's hands must be washed after the changing procedure is completed, after diaper checks, and after helping children with toileting. Children's hands must be washed after diapering and toileting.*