Cleaning and disinfecting are very different. In order to kill the organisms causing disease, specific methods for disinfecting must be followed if Cryptosporidia or Shigella has been diagnosed in a daycare attendee or caregiver.

**Cleaning and Disinfecting for Cryptosporidiosis**

During an outbreak, probable contaminated surfaces should be cleaned in a different process than everyday cleaning. These are not routine measures, but are special measures for outbreaks only. An outbreak is usually 2 or more cases in the same child care group.

- Crypto is resistant to chlorine disinfection so it is tougher to kill than most germs. The usual disinfectants, including most commonly used bleach solutions, have little effect on Crypto.
- Instead of a bleach solution, use a 3% concentration of hydrogen peroxide to soak contaminated surfaces for 20 minutes (99% inactivation).
- Crypto is not killed by alcohol gels and hand sanitizers so these materials are of little use in controlling an outbreak.
- Directions for cleaning:
  - Remove as much organic material as possible
  - Clean with soap and water; let dry
- Directions for disinfecting:
  - Soak contaminated surfaces with hydrogen peroxide for 20 minutes
  - Rinse off surface and allow surface to dry

**Cleaning for Shigellosis**

- Shigella can be cleaned with routine cleaning agents (marked “disinfectant”) or a bleach solution.
- To prepare a bleach solution:
  - Mix one part bleach with nine parts of water
  - Shake well
  - Mix the solution daily; discard after 24 hours
  - Keep in a dark bottle or a dark place since light deactivates the bleach.
- Directions for cleaning:
  - Remove as much organic material as possible
  - Clean with soap and water; let dry
- Directions for disinfecting:
  - Soak contaminated surfaces with bleach solution or disinfectant for 10 minutes
  - Rinse off surface and allow surface to dry
Cleaning for Cryptosporidiosis and Shigellosis

- It is not certain that hydrogen peroxide kills Shigellosis and it is known that bleach and other disinfectants do not kill Cryptosporidiosis.
- In a situation where a day care has children or teachers with both diseases, follow these guidelines:
  - Remove as much organic material as possible
  - Clean with soap and water; let dry
  - Soak contaminated surfaces for 10 minutes with the bleach solution; let dry
  - Rinse off surface and allow surface to dry
  - Soak contaminated surfaces for 20 minutes with hydrogen peroxide
  - Rinse off surface and allow surface to dry

General Directions for Cleaning/Disinfecting

- Soak contaminated surfaces, as directed
- Disinfect bathrooms, diaper areas, and food preparation surfaces daily
- Disinfect toys, tabletops, and high chairs more frequently than usual (at least twice daily)
- Dishwasher-safe toys can be disinfected in a commercial dishwasher that has a dry cycle or a final rinse that exceeds 113°F for 20 minutes or 122°F for 5 minutes or 162°F for 1 minute
- Cloth toys may be washed and heat-dried for 30 minutes on the highest clothes dryer heat setting