Locations included: Tierney House, Student Housing for RAs & HAs, Anza-Borrego Desert Research Center and Burns Pinon Ridge Reserve

BACKGROUND
According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), there is much to learn about the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV2) that causes coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). Based on what is currently known about the virus and about similar coronaviruses that cause SARS and MERS, transmission from person to-person happens most frequently among close contacts (within about 6 feet). This type of transmission occurs via respiratory droplets. Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 to persons from surfaces contaminated with the virus has not been documented. Transmission of coronavirus in general occurs more commonly through respiratory droplets than through fomites such as clothes, utensils, and furniture.

Current evidence suggests that SARS-CoV-2 may remain viable for hours to days on surfaces made from a variety of materials. Cleaning of visibly dirty surfaces followed by disinfection is a best practice measure for prevention of COVID-19 and other viral respiratory illnesses in community settings.

PURPOSE
This guidance provides recommendations on cleaning and disinfecting of University provided housing. It is aimed at limiting the survival of COVID-19 in key environments. These recommendations will be updated as additional information becomes available.

DEFINITIONS:
• Cleaning refers to the removal of dirt and impurities, including viruses, from surfaces. Cleaning alone does not kill viruses. But by removing the viruses, it decreases their number and therefore any risk of spreading infection.
• Disinfecting works by using chemicals, for example EPA-registered disinfectants, to kill viruses on surfaces. This process does not necessarily clean dirt off the surface but kills viruses that are present on the surface.
• **Contact Time** is the time a disinfectant is in direct contact with the surface or item to be disinfected. For surface disinfection, this period is framed by the application to the surface and leaving the disinfectant on the surface for the required contact time. Disinfectants have varying amounts of contact time.

• **Quarantine** separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick. Individuals identified for quarantine include those who have been exposed to the virus and are awaiting COVID-19 test results. A person may have been exposed to the virus without knowing it (for example, when traveling or out in the community), or they could have the virus without feeling symptoms. Quarantine helps limit further spread of COVID-19.

• **Quarantine or Isolation Spaces** refers to areas in University Provided Housing identified as quarantine/isolation spaces (If available)

• **PUI** is the abbreviated term for Person Under Investigation and is yet to be confirmed via testing whether the person is positive for the disease or not.

• **Consolidated Spaces** refers to the areas in University Provided Housing that have consolidated UCI affiliated residents into contiguous buildings.

• **Isolation** refers to the separation of sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick. Individuals identified for isolation include those who have received positive test results for COVID-19.

**GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following recommendations apply to all spaces across University Provided Housing. If a person with suspected/confirmed COVID-19 visited or used any space, EH&S recommends that personnel:

• Close off and barricade the space
• Open outside doors and windows and use ventilating fans to increase air circulation in the area.
• Wait 24 hours or as long as practical before beginning cleaning and disinfection.

If it has been more than 7 days since the person with suspected/confirmed COVID-19 visited or used the space, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary.

**Cleaning and Disinfecting Guidance for University Provided Housing**

Based on information from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and California Department of Public Health (CDPH), personnel should follow these recommendations for cleaning and disinfecting their residence/housing:

• Clean all "high-touch" surfaces every day, such as counters, tabletops, doorknobs, fixtures, toilets, phones, etc. Also, clean any surfaces that may have blood, stool, or body fluids on them. Use an EPA approved disinfectant, and use according to the instructions on the label, including wearing gloves and having good ventilation during use of the product.
• After cleaning and disinfecting, remove and dispose of gloves.
• Immediately clean your hands with soap and water or with hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol.
• Place all used gloves and other contaminated items in a lined container before disposing of them with other household waste.
• If necessary, a 3rd party contractor may be used by the University Provided Housing supervisor/manager to clean and disinfect the area/housing unit(s)
- Resident(s) should perform hand hygiene frequently. Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol.
- Resident(s) should follow respiratory etiquette: Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then throw into a lined trash container.
- Resident(s) should avoid sharing personal household items, dishes, drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, towels or bedding with other people or pets in your home. After using these items, wash hands thoroughly with soap and water.

Cleaning and Disinfecting Flowchart for Suspected/Confirmed COVID-19 Cases:

- Is there a suspected/confirmed COVID-19 case?
  - No → Routing cleaning is sufficient as stated above
  - Yes → Has the space been unoccupied for 7 days or longer?
    - Yes → Per CDC guidance, no special cleaning or disinfecting is necessary.
    - No → Can the area be left unoccupied and entry barricaded for at least 24 hours?
      - Yes → Keeping a space vacant for 24 hours is not required, but it is recommended to keep vacant for as long as possible. Proceed with cleaning and disinfecting the space using EPA-approved disinfectants and wearing the appropriate PPE.
      - No → After 24 hours has passed, proceed with cleaning and disinfecting the space using EPA-approved disinfectants and wearing the appropriate PPE. These spaces can be cleaned and sanitized similar to common areas.

COVID-19 Resources:
- UCI website, UCI EH&S, CDC website, OC Health Care Agency website

Note: If the space must be cleaned before 24 hours please contact EHS at (949)824-6200

Additional Resources
UCI is closely monitoring the COVID-19 situation and associated communications from the county, state and federal authorities. We will continue to provide updates through this website and email communications, and take steps to ensure the health and safety of our community. To view updates and obtain workplace posters related to COVID-19, please visit https://uci.edu/coronavirus/.

To view specific guidance regarding the various EH&S COVID-19, employees may also visit https://www.ehs.uci.edu/PublicHealth/covid-19/ for more details.

Additional CDC guidance is provided in the link below.