

APPLETON'S

Doggy Home Boarding
& Day Care

Infection Control

Reason:

A canine home boarding and daycare environment can potentially serve as a source of pathogens for staff and other dogs. Controlling this potential reservoir of infection is increasingly recognised as an important component of infection control and prevention. Surfaces can become contaminated and once introduced onto a surface, some pathogens may persist for months, serving as a source of infection for dogs and staff. Additionally, equipment can become contaminated with pathogens.

Action:

Regular cleaning and disinfection of equipment and surfaces to be carried out to control pathogens. Equipment and surfaces to be cleaned with water and detergent before they are disinfected with Antigene H1d4Nd Defra Approved Disinfectant, (organic material decreases the effectiveness of most disinfectants).

The Antigene disinfectant to be used according to label instructions, with attention to storage conditions, proper dilution, and contact time. Ensure that users will be able to accommodate disinfectant label requirements, including appropriate contact time.

Equipment and surfaces to be cleaned and disinfected between uses or whenever visibly soiled. Special attention to be paid to surface areas with high contact rates (e.g. door handles, cage latches and sinks). At a minimum, staff should perform hand hygiene after they have finished cleaning and before beginning other tasks.

Surfaces in areas where dogs are allowed should be made of nonporous, easily cleaned materials. Generation of dust that may contain pathogens can be minimised by use of vacuums with high-efficiency particulate air filters, wet mopping or dust mopping. Surfaces may be lightly sprayed with water prior to mopping or sweeping to minimise dust generation (wet mopping).

Cleaning products and disinfectants may contain components harmful to human health. All appropriate PPE to be worn when cleaning. Each cleaning and disinfectant products' label and safety data sheet should be easily accessible.

Routine dishwashing is sufficient to clean food and water bowls used for most dogs. Toys, litter boxes, bedding and other miscellaneous items should be cleaned and disinfected with Antigene between dog uses.

Isolation of dogs with Infectious Diseases:

Dogs with suspected or confirmed communicable diseases should be identified prior to arrival and entry refused. Any dog showing symptoms whilst already in daycare should be isolated immediately to protect other dogs and all areas cleaned and disinfected with Antigene as much as possible.

Whenever possible, use of disposable articles such as bowls, and gowns/coveralls/shoe covers is recommended. Potentially contaminated materials to be bagged and disposed of in accordance with the rules governing disposal of infectious material.

All PPE used when a dog has to be isolated due to suspected infection, should be worn immediately prior to and removed following care for the dog in an effort to limit movement of infectious organisms within the premises.

Handling of Laundry:

Soiled laundry may be contaminated with pathogens, the risk of disease transmission is negligible when soiled items are handled correctly, therefore gloves and protective outerwear to be worn when handling soiled laundry. Bedding and other laundry should be machine washed with any standard laundry detergent or Antigene and machine dried at the highest temperature suitable for the material.

To prevent cross-contamination, separate storage and transport bins to be used for clean and dirty laundry. When soiled clothing is laundered at home, it should be transported in a sealed plastic bag, kept separate from household laundry, emptied from the bag directly into a washing machine, and thoroughly machine dried after completion of the wash cycle.

The layout and maintenance of facilities can increase or decrease the risk for infection. Factors that increase risk include inadequate hand-washing facilities, inappropriate flow of visitors, and incomplete separation between dogs and food preparation and consumption areas.

Animals are more likely to shed pathogens because of stress induced by a new environment, separation, etc;.

Immunocompromised Personnel:

Anyone with a weakened immune system as a result of disease or medication and pregnant women are more susceptible to infection with zoonotic agents and more likely to develop serious complications from zoonotic infections. Employees with immunocompromising conditions should talk to their primary health-care provider to clarify work parameters and obtain guidance.