

AIRBORNE CONTAMINANT REMOVAL



Once a patient has been discharged from airborne isolation, the following CDC guidelines should be followed for airborne contaminant removal.

Time (Minutes)/Air Exchanges <i>Recommended before Terminal Cleaning</i>	
46 minutes 6 air exchanges when filter efficiency rating is 99% (Non-HEPA)*	69 minutes 6 air exchanges when filter efficiency rating is 99.9% (HEPA)*
23 minutes 12 air exchanges when filter efficiency rating is 99% (Non-HEPA)*	35 minutes 12 air exchanges when filter efficiency rating is 99.9% (HEPA)*

*To confirm whether a room filtration system is Non-HEPA or HEPA, ask your facility management team.

Consult with your facility to determine appropriate wait times after isolation discharges before cleaning. As a general guideline, 30 minutes for ERs and 60 minutes for patient room discharges should be sufficient.

For more details on the CDC guidelines, click [here](#).

PPE Requirements for Performing COVID-19 Discharge Cleans

Gown, gloves, face mask or N95 mask, and eye protection

The CDC provides guidelines and recommendations, but it's up to every company to provide direction that mitigates risks.

While performing a discharge, team members clean ceilings and walls, perform high-dusting, move linens, take down privacy curtains, and damp-wipe surfaces. All of these actions can agitate surfaces or items that could release contaminants back into the air.

It's our assessment that a facemask (minimum), if not N95 mask, eye protection, gloves, and gowns are necessary to provide sufficient protection from airborne contaminants and chemicals.