

Soiled Linen

Special Bulletin

There have been a number of questions from front line healthcare professionals regarding the handling of soiled linen, specifically as it relates to COVID-19. CDC guidelines do not define any situations that would require disposal of linens from patients with suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19, or linens saturated with blood or other body fluids. As such, we are asking for your continued partnership in adhering to the following best practices. These initiatives will help prevent linen shortages within our hospital and the healthcare community at large.

The following practices apply to all soiled linen, including linens from patients with suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19.

- Contain all soiled linen at the source.
- Place all soiled linen in hospital-approved soiled linen bags.
- Soiled linen bags should not be overfilled.
- Tie soiled linen bags with an overhand knot to properly seal.
- Never put soiled linen in the trash or red bags—soiled linen is never considered red bag waste.
- All soiled linen can be laundered.