

BREAK

15A NCAC 18A .2812
Cleaning, Sanitizing and Disinfecting
Equipment, Utensils and Other Areas

- ▶ I used the following colors to reference changes
- ▶ **Green** - new rule language
- ▶ **Red** - removed rule language
- ▶ **Purple** - reference to a definition

.2812 CLEANING, SANITIZING, AND DISINFECTING EQUIPMENT, UTENSILS, AND OTHER AREAS

- ▶ .2812(a) removed non contiguous drainboards
- ▶ .2812(b)(5)(E) clarified other sanitizing products, procedures, or equipment that are nontoxic to children, used according to the manufacturer's instructions, are safe for use on food-contact surfaces, do not require a final rinse step, and have a testing method. (removed 'and approved by the Department')
- ▶ .2812(e) clarified that multi-service articles, including highchair feeding trays, shall be washed, rinsed and sanitized in the child care center kitchen after each use (previous rules had to refer to .2810(f)(2) for this language).
- ▶ .2812(f) replaced “non food contact surfaces” with Kitchen surfaces that are not food-contact surfaces shall be kept clean.

.2801(35) Sanitizing Solution Definition

- ▶ .2801(34) “Sanitize” means a process of using a sanitizing solution on inanimate surfaces to destroy or irreversibly inactivate bacteria.
- ▶ .2801(35) “Sanitizing Solution” means a solution containing 50 to 200 ppm of chlorine or a sanitizer as defined at 40 CFR 158.2203 that is registered with the EPA in accordance with 40 CFR 152 that is approved by the EPA for use on food-contact surfaces, does not require a final rinse step, and has a testing method that can be used by child care center employees to confirm that the prescribed chemical concentrations are met and that is prepared and maintained in accordance with Rule .2812(j) of this Section
- ▶ This allows other food contact surface sanitizers to be used without having to be approved by the CEH Chemical Committee prior to use.
- ▶ Defines sanitizers but how to use them is in .2812

.2812(j) Sanitizing Solution

- ▶ .2812(j) Sanitizing solution
- ▶ (j) A sanitizing solution shall be provided for cleaning purposes. Throughout this Section, when a sanitizing solution is used in a child care center, the manufacturer's Safety Data Sheet shall be kept on file at the child care center and the instructions for use of the sanitizing solution shall be followed. When a chlorine solution is used in a child care center it shall be prepared for use within 24 hours and a testing method or kit shall be used to ensure compliance with the prescribed chlorine concentration. To achieve the maximum germ reduction with a chlorine solution, the cleaned surfaces shall be left wet with the chlorine solution and allowed to air dry or be dried only after a minimum contact time of at least two minutes.

.2801(13) Disinfect and Approved Disinfectant Definitions

- ▶ .2801(13) “Disinfect” means a non-sporicidal process of using an approved disinfectant on inanimate surfaces to destroy or irreversibly inactivate fungi, viruses, and bacteria.
- ▶ .2801(2) “Approved Disinfectant” means a chlorine solution containing 500 to 800 ppm of chlorine or a disinfectant as defined at 40 CFR 158.2203 that is registered with the US EPA in accordance with 40 CFR 152 with use indicated in schools and child care settings and that is prepared and maintained in accordance with Rule .2812(i) of this Section
- ▶ Defines disinfectants but how to use them is in .2812

.2812(i) Approved Disinfectant

- ▶ .2812(i) approved disinfectant
- ▶ (i) An approved disinfectant shall be provided for cleaning purposes. Throughout this Section, when an approved disinfectant is used in a child care center, the manufacturer's Safety Data Sheets for the disinfectant product shall be kept on file at the child care center and the instructions for use of the disinfectant product shall be followed. When a chlorine solution is prepared by a child care center employee for use as an approved disinfectant, then the solution shall be prepared for use within 24 hours and a testing method shall be used to ensure compliance with the prescribed chlorine concentration. To achieve the maximum germ reduction with a chlorine disinfecting solution, the surface being disinfected shall be made wet with the chlorine disinfecting solution and allowed to air dry or be dried only after the surface has been in contact with the chlorine disinfecting solution for a minimum of two minutes.

15A NCAC 18A .2814

Food Service Equipment and Utensil Storage

.2814 Food Service Equipment and Utensil Storage

- ▶ .2814(a) Food-contact surfaces, equipment, utensils, and single service articles shall be protected from contamination.
- ▶ .2814(b) Cleaned and sanitized utensils and equipment shall be stored above the floor in a clean, dry location and shall be kept clean while stored (instead of trying to define all possible means of contamination).

.2834(c) Where to Mark .2812, .2814

- ▶ (10) violation of Rules .2809 or .2812 of this Section related to food-contact surfaces being properly washed, rinsed, sanitized, and air dried and single-service articles not being re-used shall be assessed five demerits;
- ▶ (11) violation of Rule .2812 of this Section related to a sanitizing solution being provided and a test kit being available shall be assessed two demerits;
- ▶ (12) violation of Rule .2809, .2810, or .2812 of this Section related to keeping equipment and non-food-contact surfaces clean and in good repair shall be assessed four demerits;
- ▶ (13) violation of Rule .2814 of this Section related to proper storage and handling of clean equipment, utensils, and single-service articles shall be assessed three demerits;
- ▶ (26) violation of Rule .2812 or .2819 of this Section related to an approved disinfectant being provided and a test kit being available when required shall be assessed two demerits;

15A NCAC 18A .2815
Water Supply

CM

.2815 Water Supply

- ▶ Grammatical and technical wording changes, no content changes.
- ▶ Removed reference to **North Carolina Plumbing Code** since we don't enforce that code
- ▶ .2815(e) Just rewording, no change in interpretation or enforcement:
- ▶ **OLD** (e) Hot water used for cleaning and sanitizing food utensils and laundry shall be provided at a minimum temperature of 120°F (49°C) at the point of use. Water in areas accessible to children shall be tempered between 80°F (27°C) and 110°F (43°C). For handwash lavatories used exclusively by school-age children, the 80°F (27°C) minimum temperature requirement shall not apply. Hot water in an area accessible to any child, which is in excess of 120°F (49°C), shall be considered a burn hazard. Child care centers serving only school-age children are not required to provide hot water in areas accessible to children. In the event of the loss of hot water, the person in charge shall immediately contact the local health department.
- ▶ **NEW** (e) Hot water used for cleaning and sanitizing food utensils and laundry shall be provided at a minimum temperature of 120 degrees Fahrenheit at the point of use. Water in areas accessible to children shall be tempered between 80 degrees Fahrenheit and 110 degrees Fahrenheit. Hot water that exceeds 120 degrees Fahrenheit is a burn hazard and shall not be provided in areas accessible to children. For handwash lavatories used exclusively by school-age children, the requirement to provide water tempered between 80 degrees Fahrenheit and 110 degrees Fahrenheit shall not apply. In the event of the loss of hot water at the child care center, the operator shall immediately notify the local health department that serves the county in which the child care center is located.

.2834 Where to Mark .2815

- ▶ (14) violation of Rule .2815 of this Section related to water supply and drinking water facilities, and documentation that water supplies and facilities satisfy the applicable regulatory requirements shall be assessed six demerits;
- ▶ (15) violation of Rule .2815 of this Section related to hot water supplied and maintained in the kitchen shall be assessed six demerits;
- ▶ (16) violation of Rule .2815 of this Section related to hot water supplied and tempered water maintained as required in all other areas shall be assessed four demerits;
- ▶ (17) violation of Rule .2815(e) of this Section related to hot water in excess of 120 degrees Fahrenheit not allowed in areas accessible to children shall be assessed six demerits;
- ▶ (18) violation of Rule .2815(c) of this Section related to backflow prevention and cross connections shall be assessed three demerits;
- ▶ (19) violation of Rules .2815(c) or .2836 of this Section related to drinking fountain construction and location, water pressure regulation, and drinking fountains being kept clean shall be assessed two demerits

15A NCAC 18A .2816
Lead Poisoning Hazard in
Child Care Centers

RP

.2800 Child Care Rules Re-Adoption .2816

- ▶ Removed following:

~~Notwithstanding Rule .2801(5) of this Section, "Department" means North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services for purposes of this Rule.~~

- ▶ Added “at impacted Outlets” to limit re-sampling locations.

(1)Samples shall also be collected and tested within 30 calendar days of completion of any renovations or repairs that may impact the facility's drinking water infrastructure, such as repair or replacement of all or part of drinking water service lines or faucets, **at impacted outlets.** The operator shall provide documentation of testing results for review by the Department during each unannounced routine sanitation inspection under Rule .2834(b) of this Section.

.2800 Child Care Rules Re-Adoption .2816

- ▶ Updated link the EPA 3T's
- ▶ (4)The child care operator shall collect samples and submit them for testing in accordance with guidance specified by the United States Environmental Protection Agency in its publication, 3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities, which is incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or amendments and available free of charge at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/3ts-reducing-lead-drinking-water>.

15A NCAC 18A .2817 Toilets

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Rules Changes – Toilets

(a) In childcare centers, toilet tissue **paper** shall be provided in each toilet room and stored in a clean, dry place.

22.	Soap, approved hand drying devices, toilet tissue paper available	3
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Rules Changes – Toilets



Disinfectant being used is not an approved disinfectant.

.2812(i) **An approved disinfectant** shall be provided for cleaning purposes. Throughout this Section, when an approved disinfectant is used in a childcare center, the manufacturer's Safety Data Sheets for the disinfectant product shall be kept on file at the childcare center and the instructions for use of the disinfectant product shall be followed. When a chlorine solution is prepared by a childcare center employee for use as an approved disinfectant, then the solution shall be prepared for use within 24 hours and a testing method shall be used to ensure compliance with the prescribed chlorine concentration. To achieve the maximum germ reduction with a chlorine disinfecting solution, the surface being disinfected shall be made wet with the chlorine disinfecting solution and allowed to air dry or be dried only after the surface has been in contact with the chlorine disinfecting solution for a minimum of two minutes.

DEFINITION .2801(2) **"Approved Disinfectant"** means a chlorine solution containing 500 to 800 parts per million (ppm) of chlorine or a disinfectant as defined at 40 C.F.R. 158.2203 that is registered with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in accordance with 40 C.F.R. 152 with use indicated in schools and childcare settings and that is prepared and maintained in accordance with **Rule .2812(i)** of this Section.

.2812(i) Summary

.2812 (i) **An approved disinfectant** shall be provided for cleaning purposes. Throughout this Section, when an approved disinfectant is used in a childcare center, the manufacturer's Safety Data Sheets for the disinfectant product shall be kept on file at the childcare center and the instructions for use of the disinfectant product shall be followed. When a chlorine solution is prepared by a childcare center employee for use as an approved disinfectant, then the solution shall be prepared for use within 24 hours and a testing method shall be used to ensure compliance with the prescribed chlorine concentration. To achieve the maximum germ reduction with a chlorine disinfecting solution, the surface being disinfected shall be made wet with the chlorine disinfecting solution and allowed to air dry or be dried only after the surface has been in contact with the chlorine disinfecting solution for a minimum of two minutes.

- Where a disinfectant is used, it must be an approved disinfectant under .2812(i).
- Where a disinfectant is used, the manufacturer's Safety Data Sheets for the disinfectant product shall be kept on file at the childcare center.
- Where a disinfectant is used, the instructions for use of the disinfectant product shall be followed.

- ❖ When a chlorine solution is prepared by the childcare employee for use, a testing method shall be used.
- ❖ When a chlorine solution is prepared by the childcare employee for use, it shall be used within 24 hours.
- ❖ When a chlorine solution is prepared by the childcare employee for use, any surfaces...
 - shall be made wet AND
 - allowed to air dry OR
 - be dried only after the surface has been in contact for a MINIMUM of TWO minutes.

Continued-Rules Changes – Toilets



Disinfectant being used is not an approved disinfectant.

- Where a disinfectant is used, it must be an approved disinfectant under .2812(i).

26.	Approved cleaning solution and approved disinfectant provided; test kit available when required	2
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15A NCAC 18A .2818

Lavatories

BB



15A NCAC 18A .2818 LAVATORIES

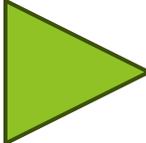
a) In childcare centers, lavatories shall be kept clean and in good repair and shall not be used for storage. Lavatories shall be mounted at an appropriate height to accommodate children or otherwise made accessible to children. **Water from a handwash lavatory shall not be used for consumption.** Lavatories with flush-rimmed sinks or with an attached operable drinking fountain shall not be used for handwashing.

5.	Food properly stored, thawed, prepared, cooked, cooled, handled, served, transported, packaged and identified; only supervised children in kitchen; water from a handwash lavatory not consumed or used for bottle warming	5
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15A NCAC 18A .2818 LAVATORIES

- (c) Lavatories shall be cleaned and disinfected with **each change of use**, when visibly soiled, and at least daily. **Change of use** occurs when a handwash lavatory is used outside of its original intent. **Change of use includes, but is not limited to, a classroom handwash lavatory used for rinsing toothbrushes, a food preparation handwash lavatory used for toy cleaning, or a classroom handwash lavatory used for diaper changing handwashing.**

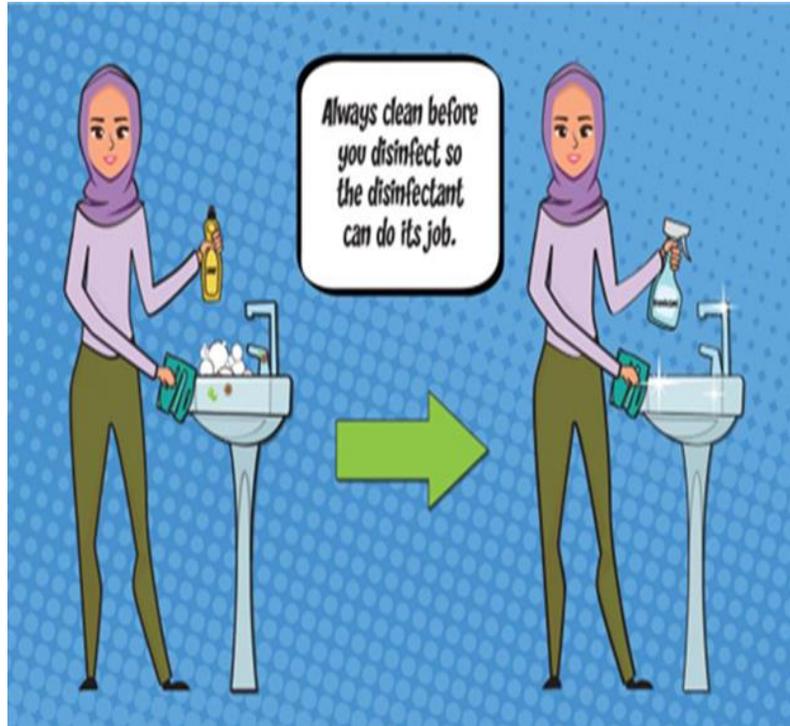


15A NCAC 18A.2810 SPECIFICATIONS FOR KITCHENS, FOOD PREPARATION AREAS AND FOOD SERVICE AREAS

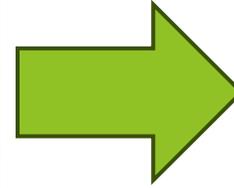
- (f) Toy cleaning and sanitizing may be conducted in the food preparation area.

Continued Rules Changes Lavatories

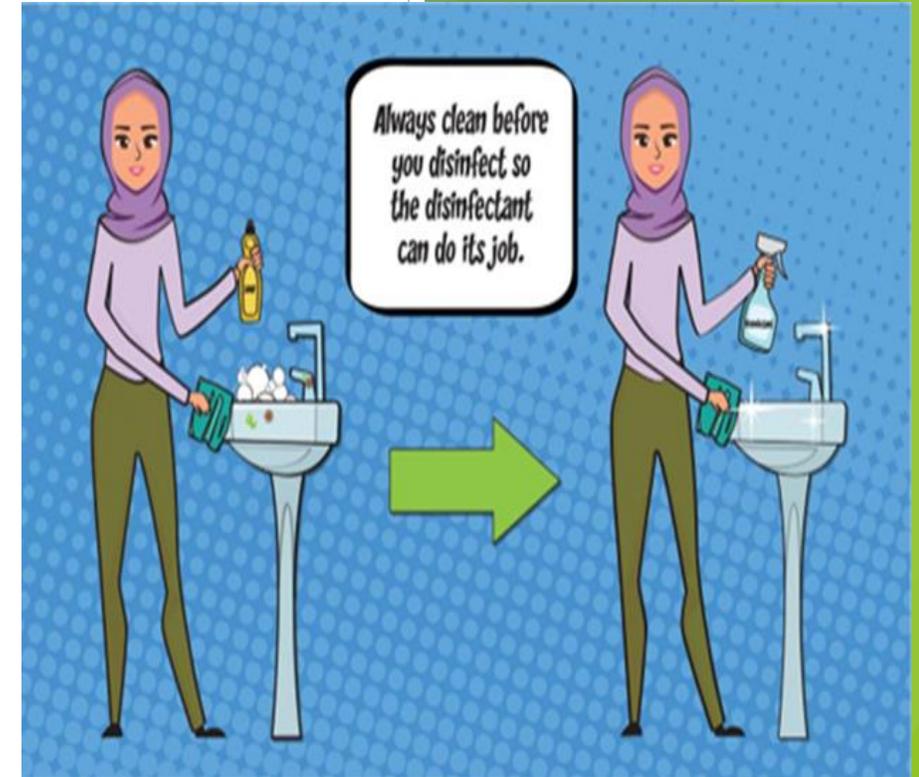
Food
Preparation
Handwashing
Lavatory



Change
of Use



Lavatory
for Toy
Cleaning

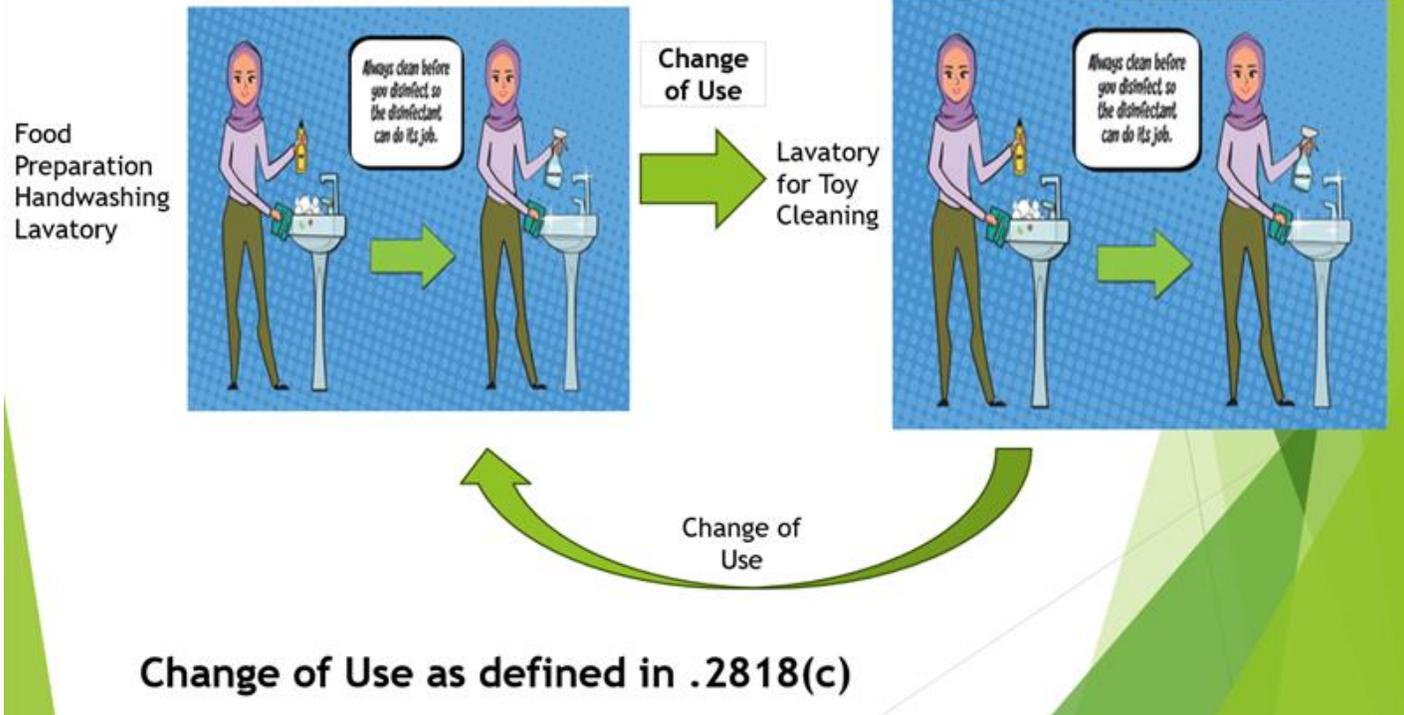


Change of
Use



Change of Use as defined in .2818(c)

Continued Rules Changes Lavatories



Violation cited :

21.	Properly sized, located, accessible, and in good repair; sinks, toilets and potty chairs cleaned and disinfected; proper change of use procedure	4
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15A NCAC 18A .2818 LAVATORIES

- e) Handwash signs shall be posted at every handwash lavatory area. The signs shall instruct children and childcare center employees to wash their hands in accordance with Rule .2803 of this Section.

27.	Free of storage and in good repair; cleaning and disinfecting solutions labeled; approved diapering methods used; approved floor barrier; diaper changing and handwash signs posted	4
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15A NCAC 18A .2819

Diapering and Diaper Changing Facilities



.2819 DIAPERING AND DIAPER CHANGING FACILITIES

(b) Diapering surfaces shall be made of smooth, intact, nonabsorbent material and shall be kept clean and in good repair. Nothing shall be placed on the diapering surface except for those items required for diapering and the child whose diaper will be changed. **If diapering is performed on the floor in a toilet room, then a smooth, intact, nonabsorbent barrier that is clean and in good repair shall be placed on the floor to minimize cross-contamination.**

27.	Free of storage and in good repair; cleaning and disinfecting solutions labeled; approved diapering methods used; approved floor barrier ; diaper changing and handwash signs posted	4
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Approved floor barrier

.2819 DIAPERING AND DIAPER CHANGING FACILITIES

- (c) Diapering surfaces shall be disinfected using an approved disinfectant. Approved disinfectants and **detergent solution** shall be kept in separate and labeled bottles at each diaper changing station. Approved disinfectants that are chlorine disinfecting solutions shall be stored in hand pump spray bottles. No cloths or sponges shall be used on diapering surfaces.
- ▶ **Detergent solution (12):** defined as a solution comprised of water and soap.

26.	Approved cleaning solution and approved disinfectant provided; test kit available when required	2
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.2819 DIAPERING AND DIAPER CHANGING FACILITIES

(c) Diapering surfaces shall be disinfected using **an approved disinfectant**. Approved disinfectants and detergent solution shall be kept in separate and labeled bottles at each diaper changing station. Approved disinfectants that are chlorine disinfecting solutions shall be stored in hand pump spray bottles. No cloths or sponges shall be used on diapering surfaces.

- Where a disinfectant is used, it must be an approved disinfectant under .2812(i).

26.	Approved cleaning solution and approved disinfectant provided; test kit available when required	2
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.2819 DIAPERING AND DIAPER CHANGING FACILITIES

- (d) Childcare center employees shall change a child's diaper as follows:
- (5) wiping the childcare center employee's hands and the child's hands each with a separate disposable towelette or moistened paper towel;

27.	Free of storage and in good repair; cleaning and disinfecting solutions labeled; approved diapering methods used; approved floor barrier; diaper changing and handwash signs posted	4
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.2819 DIAPERING AND DIAPER CHANGING FACILITIES



(h) **Signs that** instruct childcare center employees on proper methods of diaper changing and handwashing as set forth in the rules of this Section shall be posted in each diaper changing area.

27.	Free of storage and in good repair; cleaning and disinfecting solutions labeled; approved diapering methods used; approved floor barrier; diaper changing and handwash signs posted	4
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LUNCH

15A NCAC 18A .2820
Storage

KB

15A NCAC 18A .2820 storage Clarification

Previous language: In child care centers, adequate space shall be provided for the storage of equipment, furniture, toys, clothes, linens, backpacks, book bags, diaper bags, beds, cots, mats, and supplies and shall be kept clean. Shelving or other storage areas shall be provided and constructed in a **manner to facilitate cleaning**. Soiled laundry shall be handled and stored separately from clean laundry using separate cleanable containers.

New language: (a) In child care centers, adequate space shall be provided for the storage of equipment, furniture, toys, clothes, linens, backpacks, book bags, diaper bags, beds, cots, mats, and supplies. **Storage areas shall be kept clean.** Laundry that is not clean shall be handled and stored separately from clean laundry using separate containers **that are made clean in between uses and kept in good repair.**

Adequate (1): means to be of the size, volume, or technical specifications necessary to effectively accommodate and support the planned, current, or projected workloads for the technology or constructed space.

15A NCAC 18A .2820 storage Clarification

b) Toxic substances, which include corrosive agents, pesticides, bleaches, detergents, cleansers, polishes, any product which is under pressure in an aerosol dispenser, and any substance which may be hazardous to a child if ingested, inhaled, or handled shall be kept in the original container or in another labeled container, used according to the manufacturer's instructions, and stored in a locked storage room or cabinet when not in use. Locked storage rooms and cabinets shall include those which are unlocked with a combination lock, electronic or magnetic device, **keypad**, key, or equivalent locking device. Keys and electronic or magnetic unlocking devices shall be kept out of the reach of a child and shall not be stored in the lock. Toxic substances shall be stored below or separate from medications and food. Any other product that is labeled "keep out of reach of children" **and does not have any other warnings on the label** shall be **kept inaccessible to children** when not in use, but is not required to be kept in locked storage. **For the purpose of Paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) of this Rule**, a product shall be considered inaccessible to children when stored on a shelf or in an unlocked cabinet that is mounted a minimum vertical distance of five feet above the finished floor.

15A NCAC 18A .2820 storage Clarification

15A NCAC 18A .2820 STORAGE

(b) For the purpose of Paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) of this Rule, a product shall be considered **inaccessible** to children when stored on a shelf or in an unlocked cabinet that is mounted a minimum vertical distance of five feet above the finished floor.

(b) Toxic substances, which include corrosive agents, pesticides, bleaches, detergents, cleansers, polishes, any product which is under pressure in an aerosol dispenser, and any substance which may be hazardous to a child if ingested, inhaled, or handled shall be kept in its the original container or in another labeled container, used according to the manufacturer's instructions, and stored in a locked storage room or cabinet when not in use..... Any other product ~~not listed above, which~~ that is labeled "keep out of reach of children" and does not have any ~~without any~~ other warnings, warnings on the label shall be **kept inaccessible to children** when not in use, but is not required to be kept in locked storage. For the purpose of Paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) of this Rule, a The product **shall be considered inaccessible to children** when stored on a shelf or in an unlocked cabinet that is mounted a minimum vertical distance of five feet above the finished floor.

(c) Non-aerosol ~~sanitizing, disinfecting,~~ sanitizing solutions, approved disinfectants, and detergent solutions, hand ~~sanitizers, antiseptics,~~ and hand lotions shall be **kept out of reach of inaccessible to children** when not in use, but are not required to be in locked storage. These solutions shall be labeled as sanitizing, disinfecting, or detergent (~~soapy water~~) solutions. Hand soap other than that which is in bulk containers is not required to be kept ~~out of reach of~~ inaccessible to children or in locked storage. Bulk soaps shall be kept inaccessible to children.

(d) Medications including prescription and non-prescription items shall be stored in a locked cabinet or other locked container and shall not be stored above food. Designated emergency medications shall be **kept stored out of reach of inaccessible to children**, but are not required to be in locked storage. Non-prescription diaper creams and sunscreen shall be **kept out of reach of inaccessible to children** when not in use, but are not required to be in locked storage.

15A NCAC 18A .2820 storage Clarification

(c) Non-aerosol sanitizing solutions, approved disinfectants, detergent solutions, hand antiseptics, and hand lotions shall be kept inaccessible to children when not in use, but are not required to be in locked storage. These solutions shall be labeled as sanitizing, disinfecting, or detergent solutions. Hand soap other than that which is in bulk containers is not required to be kept inaccessible to children or in locked storage. Bulk soaps shall be kept inaccessible to children.

Detergent solution (12): defined as a solution comprised of water and soap. Removed (soapy water)

(d) Medications including prescription and non-prescription items shall be stored in a locked cabinet or other locked container and shall not be stored above food. Designated emergency medications shall be kept inaccessible to children, but are not required to be in locked storage. Non-prescription diaper creams and sunscreen shall be kept inaccessible to children when not in use, but are not required to be in locked storage.

15A NCAC 18A .2820 storage Policy Incorporated in Rule

(e) A locked kitchen is not considered to be a locked storage room or cabinet for the purposes of this Rule; however, for child care centers that are located within a **school** and that **use the school cafeteria's kitchen to meet the kitchen requirements** of the rules of this Section, it shall not be a violation of this Rule to store products described in Paragraphs (a)-(d) of this Rule unlocked in the cafeteria's kitchen, **provided that the kitchen is kept locked and children are not permitted in the kitchen for any purpose.**

15A NCAC 18A .2820 storage Clarification

Previous language: Individual cubicles, lockers, or coat hooks shall be provided for storage of coats, hats, or similar items. Coat hooks not in individual cubicles or lockers, shall be spaced at least 12 horizontal inches apart. Combs shall be labeled and stored individually. Toothbrushes shall be individually identified, allowed to air dry and protected from contamination. When a container of toothpaste is used for multiple children, the toothpaste shall be dispensed onto an intermediate surface such as waxed paper.

New Language: (f) Individual cubicles, lockers, or coat hooks shall be provided for storage of coats, hats, **bags, or other items and accessories**. Coat hooks not in individual cubicles or lockers, shall be spaced at least 12 horizontal inches apart. **A child's coats, hats, bags, and other items or accessories belonging to a child that are stored using cubicles, lockers, or coat hooks shall not come into contact with stored items belonging to other children**. Combs shall be labeled with the name of the child to whom the comb belongs and **stored separately from combs or other items that belong to a different child**. **Toothbrushes shall be labeled with the name of the child to whom the toothbrush belongs**, allowed to air dry after use, protected from contamination, **and stored in a designated area**. When a container of toothpaste is used for multiple children, the toothpaste shall be dispensed onto an intermediate surface such as waxed paper **and shall not be dispensed directly onto each child's toothbrush**.

15A NCAC 18A .2820 storage Clarification

Previous language:

Employee purses and other personal effects shall be kept out of reach of children.

Current language:

(g) Purses and other personal effects belonging to child care center employees shall be kept inaccessible to children and shall be stored in accordance with this Rule, as applicable.

.2821 Beds, Cots, Mats, and Linens

.2821 Beds, Cots, Mats, and Linens

- (a) In child care centers, beds, cribs, cots, mats, and play pens shall be kept clean and in good repair, stored to prevent contamination, and cleaned and sanitized between users.
- (b) Cribs and play pens used for sleeping shall be kept clean and equipped with a firm, tight-fitting mattress made of waterproof, washable material at least two inches thick.
- (c) Beds, cots, and mats shall be assigned and labeled for use by an individual child and equipped with individual linens.
- (d) Mats shall be of a waterproof, washable material at least two inches thick and shall be stored so that the side of the mats that makes contact with the floor does not touch the side of a mat that any child sleeps on. The sleeping surface of one child's mat shall not come in contact with the sleeping surface of another child's mat during storage.
- (e) When in use, cribs, cots, mats and play pens shall be placed at least 18 inches apart or separated by partitions that prevent physical contact between children.

.2821 BEDS, COTS, MATS, AND LINENS

(f) Linens shall be kept clean, in good repair, and stored with the mat or cot that the linens are assigned to or stored apart from the mattress or cot in a manner that keeps the linens used for each child separate from the linens belonging to other children. Linens shall be laundered between users, when soiled, and otherwise once per week. Linens used in rooms where the children in care are less than 12 months old shall be changed and laundered when soiled and otherwise at least daily. Linens shall be large enough to cover the bed, cot, or mat's sleeping surface.

(g) Wash cloths, bibs, and burping cloths shall be laundered after each use. Each time a wash cloth, bib, or burping cloth is used, it shall be used for only one child.

.2821 beds, cots, mats, and Linens

- a) Changed to incorporate play pens and items kept clean. **Marked #32**
- b) Cribs and play pens must be kept clean. **Marked #32**
- c) Only grammatical changes.
- d) **Clarification** that the floor side of a mat shall not touch the sleeping side. During storage the sleeping surface of one child's mat shall not touch the sleeping side of another child's mat. **Marked #32**

.2821 beds, cots, mats, and Linens

- e) Clarification to prevent contact between children while using cribs, mats, cots and play pens. **Marked #32**
- f) Linens shall be stored with the cot or mat assigned. If stored apart from cot or mattress, then each must be separate from linens belonging to other children. **Marked #32**
- g) Wash cloths, bibs and burping cloths may only be used once before laundering. Each time they are used, may only be used for one child. **Marked #33**

.2822 Toys, Equipment and Furniture

15A NCAC 18A .2822 TOYS, EQUIPMENT AND FURNITURE

(a) Toys, equipment, and furniture provided by a child care center shall be kept clean and in good repair. In rooms designated for children who are not toilet trained, toys and other mouth-contact surfaces that are used by children shall be cleaned and then sanitized after each use and when visibly dirty. Toys and other mouth-contact surfaces shall be cleaned and sanitized as follows:

- (1) the items shall be scrubbed in warm, soapy water, using a brush to reach into any crevices;
- (2) the items shall be rinsed in clean water;
- (3) the items shall be submerged in a sanitizing solution for at least two minutes or in accordance with the instructions on the label of the sanitizing solution; and
- (4) the items shall be air dried.

(b) Toys and other mouth-contact surfaces that are not designed to be submerged in liquid shall be washed and rinsed in place, sprayed with a sanitizing solution, and allowed to air dry. Hard plastic toys may be washed and rinsed in a dishwasher and cloth toys may be laundered and mechanically dried without requiring sanitizing.

(c) Toys, furniture, cribs, or other items accessible to children shall be free of peeling, flaking, or chalking paint.

(d) Water play centers shall be filled with potable water immediately before children begin a water play session. Water shall be emptied after each play session and at a minimum each morning and afternoon, or more often if no longer clean. The water play centers, including toys, shall be cleaned and sanitized at least daily or more often if no longer clean. Water play is prohibited during the outbreak and investigation of a communicable disease or condition at the child care center. Wading pools are not considered water play centers and are regulated under the rules in Section .2500 of this Subchapter.

Definitions

"Approved Disinfectant" means a chlorine solution containing 500 to 800 parts per million (ppm) of chlorine or a disinfectant as defined at 40 C.F.R. 158.2203 that is registered with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in accordance with 40 C.F.R. 152 with use indicated in schools and child care settings and that is prepared and maintained in accordance with Rule .2812(i) of this Section

"Sanitizing Solution" means a solution containing 50 to 200 parts per million (ppm) of chlorine or a sanitizer as defined at 40 C.F.R. 158.2203 that is registered with the EPA in accordance with 40 C.F.R. 152 that is approved by the EPA for use on food-contact surfaces, does not require a final rinse step, and has a testing method that can be used by child care center employees to confirm that the prescribed chemical concentrations are met and that is prepared and maintained in accordance with Rule .2812(j) of this Section.

"Water Play Center" (41) means water tables or containers that allow children to scoop, splash, pour, and play with water to explore their senses.

Toys, equipment and furniture (a)

- a) Clarifies that in rooms where children are not toilet trained toys and other mouth contact surfaces must be cleaned and sanitized after each use and when visibly dirty. Wording about bleach concentration and testing method moved to definitions. **Marked #35**

Toys, equipment and furniture (b)

- b) Items not designed to be submerged may be cleaned and sanitized in place. Hard plastic toys may be cleaned in dishwasher and cloth toys may be laundered and mechanically dried without requiring sanitizing. **Marked #35**

Toys, equipment and furniture (c)

- c) Toys, furniture, cribs, or other items accessible to children shall be free of peeling, flaking, or chalking paint.
Marked #34

Toys, equipment and furniture (d)

- d) Water play centers must use potable water. Play session has been limited to at a minimum each morning and afternoon. **Marked #34**

.2823 Personnel

AH/BG

.2823 personnel

- a) Employees shall wear clean clothing while at work. Employees shall keep their fingernails clean.
- b) Tobacco use in any form is prohibited in any part of a child care center.
- c) Volunteers shall adhere to the same requirements as child care center employees.

Violations of .2823 should be marked under number #36 on the grade sheet.

.2824 Floors

AH/BG

.2824 Floors

- (a) In child care centers, floors and floor coverings in food preparation, food storage, utensil washing, toilet rooms, and laundry areas shall be constructed of nonabsorbent material and shall be kept clean and in good repair.
- (b) Floors and floor coverings in sleeping and play areas shall be kept clean and in good repair.
- (c) Carpeting used as a floor covering shall be of closely woven construction and shall be kept clean and in good repair. Carpeted floors shall be vacuumed daily when children are not present in the room, except to clean up spills. Instead of waiting for children to leave the room, a High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filter vacuum cleaner may be used. If used for this purpose, a HEPA vacuum cleaner shall include a HEPA filter individually tested and rated as 99.97% efficient at 0.3 micron dust particle size and sealed to prevent leakage around connecting points. Vacuum bags shall be changed and vacuums shall be emptied when children are not present in the room. The vacuum cleaner shall be in good repair. Wall to wall carpets shall be cleaned using extraction methods at least once each six months. Cleaning materials including surfactants, solvents, and water used for extraction shall be removed from the carpet before the space is reoccupied. When water extraction is used, the carpet shall be completely dry within 12 hours of cleaning.
- (d) Floors in areas accessible to children, shall be kept free of peeling, flaking, chalking, or otherwise deteriorating paint.

Floors .2824

- a) **Clarification:** Floors and floor coverings in food preparation, food storage, utensil washing, toilet rooms, and laundry areas shall be constructed of nonabsorbent material and shall be kept clean and in good repair.

Floors .2824

- b) Floors and floor coverings in sleeping and play areas shall be kept clean and in good repair. (added clean and good repair)
- c) When water extraction is used the carpet shall be completely dry within 12 hours. Hot water is not required for extraction cleaning.

Violations of .2824 should be marked under number 37 on grade sheet.

.2825 Walls and Ceilings

2825 Walls and Ceilings

- (a) In child care centers, the walls and ceilings, including doors and windows, of all rooms and areas shall be kept clean, free of visible fungal growth, and in good repair. All walls and ceilings shall be free of peeling, flaking, chalking, or otherwise deteriorating paint.
- (b) Walls and ceilings in rooms in which food is stored, handled, or prepared, utensil-washing rooms, and toilet rooms shall be nonabsorbent. Acoustic and other absorbent ceiling material may be used where ventilation in the room precludes the possibility of grease and moisture absorption by the acoustic or other material. For child care centers licensed for fewer than 13 children and located in a residence, ceilings of residential construction are acceptable if kept clean and in good repair.

Walls and Ceilings

- a) Removed term “easily cleanable” from requirements.
- b) Acoustic and other absorbent ceiling material may be used where ventilation in the room precludes the possibility of grease and moisture absorption by the acoustic or other material.

Violations of .2825 should be marked under number 37 on the grade sheet.

.2826 Lighting and Thermal Environment

2826 Lighting and Thermal environment

- (a) In child care centers, all rooms and enclosed areas shall be lighted by natural or artificial light. Lighting shall be capable of illumination to at least 50 foot-candles at work surfaces. Lighting shall be capable of illumination to at least 10 foot-candles of light, at 30 inches above the floor, in all other areas, including storage rooms. Light fixtures in all areas shall be kept clean and in good repair. Shielded or shatterproof bulbs shall be used in food preparation, storage, and serving areas and in all rooms used by children.
- (b) All rooms used by children shall be heated, cooled, and ventilated to maintain an ambient temperature between 65 degrees Fahrenheit and 85 degrees Fahrenheit. Ventilation may be in the form of openable windows with screens or by means of mechanical ventilation to the outside of the building. Windows and window treatments shall be kept clean and in good repair. All ventilation equipment, including air supply diffusers, return grilles, and fans shall be kept clean and in good repair.
- (c) Nothing in the rules of this Section shall require that outdoor storage buildings be wired with electricity or provided with heating and air conditioning.

Definition

Work Surfaces(42): means surfaces used for food service, stove tops, food contact utensil and dishwashing sinks, surfaces used for air drying, drain boards, surfaces used for diaper changing, counter top surfaces, and children's work tables, desks, and easels.

.2826 Lighting and thermal environment

No substantive changes

- a) Removed examples of work surfaces
- b) Wording clarification on ambient temperature, openable windows with screens, diffusers, returns, and fans.

Violations of .2826 should be marked under 38 for ambient temperatures or 39 for all other items on the grade sheet.

15A NCAC 18A .2827

Communicable Diseases and Conditions

15A NCAC 18A.2827 COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND CONDITIONS

(a) In child care centers, a child who becomes ill to the extent that the child can no longer participate in routine group activities shall be separated from the other children until the child leaves the child care center and in accordance with 10A NCAC 09 .0804.

(b) Each child care center shall include a designated area for a child who becomes ill to the extent that she or he can no longer participate in the routine group activities. When in use, such area shall be equipped with a bed, cot, or mat and a vomitus receptacle and shall be cleaned and disinfected after each use. Thermometers and all materials used in the designated area, including toys, shall be cleaned and sanitized after each use. Linens shall be changed after each use.

(c) If the designated area required under Paragraph (b) of this Rule is not a separate room, then it shall be separated from space used by other children by a partition or screen. The designated area shall be located so that health and sanitation measures can be carried out without interrupting activities of other children and staff.

d) The child care center shall have written procedures that employees shall follow when responding to vomiting or diarrheal events that involve the discharge of vomitus or fecal matter onto surfaces in the center. The procedures shall address the specific actions employees must take to minimize the spread of contamination and the exposure of employees, children, food, and surfaces to vomitus or fecal matter. The written procedures shall include the following information:

- (1) Child care center employees who are part of the designated clean up response team;
- (2) A supply list for vomit and diarrhea cleanup kit items that shall be kept on-site at the child care center, including:
 - (A) disposable personal protective equipment (gloves, apron, mask, shoe covers, and hair restraint);
 - (B) two disposable plastic bags;
 - (C) paper towels;
 - (D) a scoop or scraper;
 - (E) a mop and bucket; and
 - (F) an approved disinfectant;

15A NCAC 18A.2827 COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND CONDITIONS

- (3) The location of the supplies described in Subparagraph (d)(2) of this Rule;
- (4) A procedure for preventing access to the contaminated area;
- (5) The steps used to clean and disinfect the contaminated area, which shall include the following:
 - (A) for hard surfaces, remove the vomit or diarrhea, wash the contaminated surface, and use an approved disinfectant.
 - (B) for carpet or upholstery, remove the vomit or diarrhea without use of vacuum, wash all surfaces, and steam clean or use an approved disinfectant.
- (6) The steps for after clean up, which shall including the following:
 - (A) throw away all items that came into contact with the vomit or diarrhea;
 - (B) remove all personal protective equipment (PPE);
 - (C) discard all cleaning items and PPE in a secured trash area;
 - (D) disinfect non disposable cleaning items such as scoops, scrapers, mop heads, mop handles, and buckets and discard of disposable cleaning items; and
 - (E) wash hands in accordance with the procedures in Rule .2803(e) of this Section.
- (7) Identify steps for properly storing contaminated articles of clothing and cloth diapers that came into contact with the vomit or diarrhea in accordance with the procedures in Rule .2819(f) of this Section.

15A NCAC 18A.2827 COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND CONDITIONS

(e) Employees with a communicable disease or a communicable condition shall be excluded from work or subject to restrictions to prevent transmission in accordance with the Rules in Section 10A NCAC 41A .0200. Any employee with boils, sores, burns, infected wounds, or other draining lesions on exposed skin shall bandage the affected area to avoid exposing others to drainage. If such bandaging obstructs handwashing as set out in Rule .2803 of this Section, if the exposure to drainage cannot be prevented, or if otherwise required under the rules in Section 10A NCAC 41A .0200, then the employee shall be excluded from food preparation and work activities that involve contact with other employees or children while risk of transmission of the communicable disease or condition exists.

10A NCAC 09 .0804 INFECTIOUS AND CONTAGIOUS DISEASES

(a) Centers may provide care for a mildly ill infant or child older than two months who has a Fahrenheit temperature less than 101 degrees and for infants younger than two months who have a Fahrenheit temperature of less than 100.4 by any method including axillary or orally, so long as the child does not have any of the following:

- (1) more than two stools above the child's normal pattern and diarrhea is not contained by a diaper or when toilet-trained children are having accidents;*
- (2) two or more episodes of vomiting within a 12 hour period;*
- (3) lice, until completion of first treatment;*
- (4) scabies;*
- (5) chicken pox or a rash suggestive of chicken pox;*
- (6) tuberculosis, until a health professional provides a written statement that the child is not infectious;*
- (7) strep throat, until 12 hours after antibiotic treatment has started and no fever is present;*
- (8) pertussis, until five days after treatment has started;*
- (9) hepatitis A virus infection, until one week after onset of illness or jaundice;*
- (10) impetigo, until 24 hours after treatment has started;*
- (11) a physician's or other health professional's written order that the child be separated from other children; or*
- (12) exclusion for symptoms not included in this list shall be required if the symptoms prevent the child from participating comfortably in activities as determined by staff members of the program or the symptoms result in a need for care that is greater than the staff members can provide without compromising the health and safety of other children.*

(b) Centers that choose to provide care for mildly ill children shall:

- (1) follow all procedures to prevent the spread of communicable diseases described in 15A NCAC 18A .2800, "Sanitation of Child Care Centers", as adopted by the Commission for Public Health;*
- (2) separate from the other children any child who becomes ill while in care or who is suspected of having a communicable disease or condition other than as described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule until the child leaves the center;*
- (3) notify all parents at enrollment that the center will be providing care for mildly ill children;*
- (4) notify the parent of any child who becomes ill or who is suspected of being ill with a communicable condition other than as described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule that the child is ill and shall leave the center;*
- (5) notify the parent of any mildly ill child in care if the child's condition worsens while the child is in care.*

15A NCAC 18A .2836

Mildly Sick Children

.2836 MIDLY SICK CHILDREN

Child care centers that are licensed by the licensing agency to offer care to mildly sick children pursuant to 10A NCAC 09 .2404 shall comply with all rules in this Section except as follows:

- (1) Prior to operating a program for mildly sick children, the child care center operator shall undergo a sanitation inspection of the child care center by the Department.
- (2) Drinking fountains shall not be used by mildly sick children.
- (3) Toilet fixtures, potty chairs, utility sinks, tubs, and showers shall be cleaned and disinfected after each use.
- (4) Lavatories shall be of a hands-free design or equipped with single-lever faucets.
- (5) Cloth diapers shall not be used.
- (6) Individually labeled moist towelette containers shall be provided for each child in diapers.
- (7) Caregivers shall wear clean disposable gloves when changing each diaper.
- (8) Moist towelettes shall not be used in lieu of handwashing for children who cannot support their heads.
- (9) A 36-inch separation shall be maintained or partitions shall be placed between beds, cots and mats to minimize contact among children.
- (10) Furniture shall be nonabsorbent.

.2836 MIDLY SICK CHILDREN

- (11) Thermometers and mouthable toys shall be cleaned and sanitized between uses by different children. Soft, cloth material toys may be brought from home if labeled with the name of the child to whom the toy belongs and used only by that child. If soft toys are provided by the child care center, they shall be sanitized between uses by different children.
- (12) Employees caring for mildly sick children shall not prepare food in a kitchen used to prepare food for one or more children who are not mildly sick or serve food to children who are not mildly sick.
- (13) Family style and other self-serve food service is prohibited.
- (14) Carpeted floors are prohibited. Throw rugs may be used if laundered when contaminated and at least weekly. Floors contaminated by body fluids shall be cleaned and disinfected immediately.
- (15) Caregivers shall wash hands in accordance with the procedures in Rule .2803(c) before leaving the area designated for mildly sick children.
- (16) All waste shall be disposed of in a plastic-lined, covered receptacle.

10A NCAC 09 .2404 INCLUSION AND EXCLUSION REQUIREMENTS

(a) Centers may provide care for a mildly ill infant or child older than two months who has a Fahrenheit temperature less than 101 degrees and for infants younger than two months who have a Fahrenheit temperature of less than 100.4 by any method including axillary or orally, so long as the child does not have any of the following:

- (1) more than two stools above the child's normal pattern and diarrhea is not contained by a diaper or when toilet-trained children are having accidents;*
- (2) two or more episodes of vomiting within a 12 hour period;*
- (3) lice, until completion of first treatment;*
- (4) scabies;*
- (5) chicken pox or a rash suggestive of chicken pox;*
- (6) tuberculosis, until a health professional provides a written statement that the child is not infectious;*
- (7) strep throat, until 12 hours after antibiotic treatment has started and no fever is present;*
- (8) pertussis, until five days after treatment has started;*
- (9) hepatitis A virus infection, until one week after onset of illness or jaundice;*
- (10) impetigo, until 24 hours after treatment has started;*
- (11) a physician's or other health professional's written order that the child be separated from other children; or*
- (12) exclusion for symptoms not included in this list shall be required if the symptoms prevent the child from participating comfortably in activities as determined by staff members of the program or the symptoms result in a need for care that is greater than the staff members can provide without compromising the health and safety of other children.*

(b) Centers that choose to provide care for mildly ill children shall:

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- (2) separate from the other children any child who becomes ill while in care or who is suspected of having a communicable disease or condition other than as described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule until the child leaves the center;*
- (3) notify all parents at enrollment that the center will be providing care for mildly ill children;*
- (4) notify the parent of any child who becomes ill or who is suspected of being ill with a communicable condition other than as described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule that the child is ill and shall leave the center;*
- (5) notify the parent of any mildly ill child in care if the child's condition worsens while the child is in care.*

Vomit & Diarrhea Clean-up Plan

PURPOSE

In accordance with the Rules Governing the Sanitation of Child Care Centers (15A NCAC 18A .2827) “The childcare center shall have written procedures that employees shall follow when responding to vomiting or diarrheal events that involve the discharge of vomitus or fecal matter onto surfaces in the center.”

ASSEMBLE A CLEAN-UP KIT

Operators may purchase a kit from a supplier or assemble their own. Clean-up kits shall contain personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies.

Required Personal Protective Equipment

- Disposable gloves
- Apron
- Mask
- Shoe covers
- Hair restraint

Recommended Cleaning Supplies

- Caution tape to mark contaminated area
- Dedicated bucket and disposable mop heads
- Absorbent powder/solidifier (such as kitty litter or baking soda)

Required Cleaning Supplies

- Two disposable plastic bags
- Paper towels
- A scoop or scraper
- A mop and bucket
- Soapy water solution/Cleaning solution
- An approved disinfectant

Disinfectant Solutions

- If using concentrated bleach (labeled as 8.25%), add 3/4 cups of bleach to 1 gallon of water.
- If using regular bleach, (labeled as 5.25%) add 1 cup of bleach to 1 gallon of water.
- Commercially prepared disinfectants effective against Norovirus can be used. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has a list of approved commercial disinfectants for reference.

BEFORE CLEAN UP BEGINS

- Promptly move ill children to the designated area for children who become ill. Ill staff should be sent home.
- Notify trained worker or designated clean up response team, if applicable. Put on personal protective equipment and gather cleaning supplies.
- Contain a 25-30 feet area from the epicenter of the event to keep anyone not involved in clean up out of the area. Warning tape or similar barrier should be placed around the area to keep out staff and children until the area has been cleaned and disinfected.



WHEN VOMIT OR DIARRHEA CLEAN-UP IS NEEDED...



Select clean-up staff: The *best practice* is to select an employee that is not a food handler.

BASIC SUPPLIES



Personal protective equipment or PPE (gloves, disposable apron(s) or gown(s), mask(s), hair restraint(s) shoe covers,)

Disposable bags with seal or twist tie, paper towels, scoop or scraper

Approved disinfectant (if preparing disinfectant on-site, use 1 cup of household, unscented bleach in 1 gallon of water)

Dedicated mop and bucket for vomit clean-up, or disposable mop heads and bucket

Segregate the area, including a 25-30 feet radius around incident for clean-up

HARD SURFACES:



1. **REMOVE LIQUID**
Cover the vomit or diarrhea with paper towels or absorbent powder like kitty litter. Carefully remove soaked paper towels or hardened powder with a scoop/scraper and place in a sealable plastic bag. **DO NOT VACUUM**



2. **WASH ALL SURFACES**
All contaminated hard surfaces (chairs, chair legs, table legs, walls, shelves, etc.) should be washed with soapy water, then rinsed with clean water.



3. **DISINFECT**
Saturate all surfaces with a disinfectant, using a mop or other cleaning equipment for large areas of cleanup.

CARPET OR UPHOLSTERY:



1. **REMOVE LIQUID**
Cover the vomit or diarrhea with paper towels or absorbent powder like cat litter. Carefully remove soaked paper towels or hardened powder with a scoop/scraper and place in a sealable plastic bag. **DO NOT VACUUM**



2. **WASH ALL SURFACES**
All contaminated soft surfaces should be washed with soapy water, then rinsed with clean water.



3. **STEAM CLEAN OR DISINFECT**
Use a hot water extraction method for 5 minutes. Bleach solution can be used as described in the hard surface clean-up.

5 MINUTES

AFTER CLEAN UP



Discard all exposed food, single-service items, condiments, etc. that may have been exposed.

Remove all PPE and place in a sealable plastic bag. Do not touch any cleaned surfaces to avoid recontamination.

Remove all bagged contaminated PPE, kitty litter, and paper towels from the interior of the building to a secured trash location without passing through ANY portion of the kitchen, including dry storage areas.

Disinfect any scoops, scrapers, mop heads, mop handles, buckets, etc. used in clean-up. Discard any of these items that are disposable.

Wash hands, arms, and exposed skin thoroughly. If food employees were used for clean-up, perform double handwashing and change any exposed clothing before returning to work.

Monitor all clean-up employees for illness at least 48 hours, and exclude from work if symptomatic.

- (40) violation of Rule .2827(e) of this Section related to persons with a communicable disease or a condition shall be assessed six demerits;
- (41) violation of Rules .2827 or .2836 of this Section related to persons caring for mildly sick children or ill children being excluded from situations in which transmission of communicable disease can be expected to occur and **proper written procedures being followed for vomiting or diarrheal events** shall be assessed four demerits;
- (42) violation of Rule .2827 of this Section related to the designated area for sick children maintained as required and **written procedures** for responding to vomiting or diarrheal events shall be assessed two demerits;

BREAK #2