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Klachkova, Anastasiya (CSC/SCC)

From: Dunn Kathleen (NHQ-AC)
Sent: February 25, 2021 1:40 PM
To: Clement Chris (NHQ-AC)
Subject: Research shows coronavirus can survive on healthcare uniforms for three days

More on laundry ... (Barb forwarded the media link)

UK study (micro)

https://www.dmu.ac.uk/about-dmu/news/2021/february/research-shows-coronavirus-can-survive-on-healthcare-uniforms-for-three-days.aspx

supporting lit review (PubMed):
The role of textiles as fomites in the healthcare environment: a review of the infection control risk
https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32904371/

Media report
https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/coronavirus/coronavirus-can-survive-on-some-fabrics-for-72-hours-in-a-lab-study-finds-1.5322675

- scientists monitored the stability of the virus on materials for 72 hours.

- results showed that polyester poses the highest risk for transmission of the virus, with infectious virus still present after three days that could transfer to other surfaces. On 100% cotton, the virus lasted for 24 hours, while on polycotton, the virus only survived for six hours.

- findings show that three of the most commonly used textiles in healthcare pose a risk for transmission of the virus. If nurses and healthcare workers take their uniforms home, they could be leaving traces of the virus on other surfaces

- Study looked at laundering methods and risk of cross-contamination - only when detergent is added and increased the water temperature that the virus was completely eliminated. Investigating the tolerance of the virus to heat alone, findings showed that coronavirus was stable in water up to 60°C, but was inactivated at 67°C.

- recommendation that all healthcare uniforms should be washed on site at hospitals or at an industrial laundry