

RISK ASSESSMENT AND METHOD STATEMENT FOR USING A FOGGING MACHINE FOR COVID-19 SANITISATION

Description of activities:

Fogging machines or Foggers dispense chemicals into the atmosphere in a very fine mist (known as a fog) which then settles on all exposed surfaces. This risk assessment covers the use of our Fogging Machine by our trained operatives with an approved disinfectant to sanitise rooms and surfaces for protection against the spread of COVID-19.

Fogging Machine Details:

Insert details/photo of Fogging machine that you use.

Eg –

We use an Ultra-low volume Fogger (ULV foggers) – this is a cold fogger with an electric motor and fan which forces air into the chemical, producing a fine fog, with a droplet size of approx. 20 microns – suitable for COVID-19 sanitising.

Disinfectant Details:

We use Chemspec Formula 429 Plus. A concentrated water-based antimicrobial with multisurface broad spectrum kill and residual control. It conforms to BS EN 1276 - This standard guarantees it will kill Covid-19 provided you use it in line with the manufacturer's instructions. Safety Data Sheet is available to view.



Method Statement:

In order to be effective, fogging needs to be conducted correctly and to a set process. All those carrying out the activity must be trained and competent for the task. Equipment used must be operated in line with manufacturer's instructions.

1. Prepare the area to be fogged:

- Remove any food items
- Textiles and soft furnishings can act as a sink for dispersed disinfectant and so ideally should be removed or covered with polythene sheeting during fogging to optimise treatment of the rest of the room.
- Assess the need to protect and or disconnect electrical equipment – fogging can damage electrical equipment.
- Fire detectors should be covered up or disconnected as there is a risk that they will trip a false alarm.
- Air conditioners and ventilation should be turned off.
- Assess areas where fog might be able to escape in large volumes - Close windows etc. If necessary tape up and gaps in doors and wall vents.
- Airborne disinfection does not remove the need for surface cleaning - surfaces that are dirty can reduce the effectiveness of disinfectant applied by airborne dispersion. Pre-cleaning should take place to remove any dirt, dust etc.

2. Use of Fogger:

- Fill the fogger with the Chemspec 429 plus disinfectant. Use diluted 1:9 with water (eg 200ml to 1.8 litres of water).
- Don PPE – Face mask, eye protection, overalls and gloves.
- Ensure the operator is the only person in the room. Area should be clear of all other people and animals. Ensure non-authorized entry to the room being fogged can not take place by locking doors/use of signage/security etc.
- Work from the furthest point of the room back to the exit, then leave the room, close the door and do not allow entry back into the room for 1 hour.

RISK ASSESSMENT				
Hazards	Who might be harmed	Controls	Risk Level before controls are implemented	Risk Level after controls are implemented
During fogging the air in the room will be filled with a minute dispersion of disinfectant - hence there is a risk of exposure to lungs, eyes and skin	Operatives and anyone else in the room	<p>Fogging is only carried out by fully trained, competent operatives who are wearing face masks, eye protection, gloves and overalls. Training covers the safe use of equipment and disinfectant, as well as how to don and doff the necessary PPE.</p> <p>Before fogging commences, operatives will ensure area is clear of all other people and entry to room is not allowed for at least 1 hour after fogging has been completed. Clear warning signs displayed outside of room being fogged.</p>	High	Low

<p>Incorrect use of fogging machine and or incorrect levels of disinfectant used in machine – could lead to exposure risks as above</p>	<p>Operatives</p>	<p>Operatives receive training on how to correctly use the fogger and on the levels of disinfectant to use.</p> <p>Manufacturers instructions and Safety Data sheet information is strictly followed.</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Low</p>
<p>Faulty or poorly maintained equipment – could lead to injuries/ill health</p>	<p>Operatives</p>	<p>All equipment purchased is fit for purpose, meets regulatory safety standards, is electrically safe where applicable and is subject to a regular maintenance and testing regime.</p> <p>All equipment is cleaned after each use and is kept clean and dry when not in use.</p>	<p>Med</p>	<p>Low</p>