

Appendix 3 – Birthing Pool/Bath Cleaning Protocol

1. Ensure the room is well ventilated, remove and dispose of the thermometer to avoid blocking the pool waste outlet.
2. Ensure compliance with Standard Infection Control Procedures - Plastic apron, gloves, eye protection.
3. Before emptying the pool remove any debris using a disposable sieve to prevent debris from blocking the pool waste outlet.
4. Empty the pool / bath.
5. Use a general detergent and new disposable cloth or mop head, clean the pool/bath of any blood and small bits of debris.

When cleaning the pool / bath

- a. Start at the tap outlet - do not put the cloth/mop into the nozzle, and finish at the base of the tap and then clean the tap handles
- b. Clean around the top rim of the pool initially
- c. Move inwards cleaning around the inside of the top rim over the overflow - work downwards towards the waste outlet.

DO NOT TAKE A DIRTY CLOTH BACK OVER AREAS ALREADY CLEANED

- d. Rinse the pool/bath with warm water
 - e. Dispose of the cleaning cloth/mop in orange waste bag
 - f. Dry all surfaces with a disposable cloth or towel
 - g. Dispose of gloves and apron in orange waste bag and decontaminate hands
6. Mix the chlor-clean solution Actichlor 1.7g - 1 tablet / 1litre water = 1000ppm in a clean bucket
 7. Clean the pool using the process described in point 5. a – d Using the Actichlor solution Rinse the pool with the Actichlor solution and leave in place for 10 minutes
 8. Rinse the pool thoroughly using cold water starting at the tap and work down towards the waste outlet
 9. Dry the entire pool with a clean mop head or towel
 10. Empty and dry the bucket - store the bucket inverted Inflatable pools should be emptied and liners disposed of. If the liner has leaked then the pool should be cleaned as the above Disposable, thermometers, mirrors, sieves, liners and hoses should be used.
 11. The pool should have a daily dust with a clean cloth to remove any general dust.
 12. If the pool has been unused for five days (see Legionella prevention sheet within the Health Board), then pool must be cleaned with the general detergent – for Legionella compliance.

Cleaning inflatable birth pools (Birth pool in a box)

1. Ensure compliance with Standard Infection Control Procedures - Plastic apron, gloves, eye protection.
2. Before emptying the pool remove any debris using a disposable sieve to prevent debris blocking the pump, pipe and the pool waste outlet
3. Place the water pump in bottom of pool.
4. Attach piping to the waste outlet point – DO NOT ATTACH TO ELECTRICITY SUPPLY UNTIL THIS IS DONE
5. Place electricity plug into plug unit on the wall
6. Empty all water out of liner.
7. Once empty the liner can be wrapped up to avoid spillages and placed into an orange clinical waste bag.
8. The inflatable pool exterior and interior and taps should be then cleaned with Clinell and left to air dry, making sure that underneath the pool is clean and able to dry completely.
9. To clean the water pump and coiled hose, fully immerse the pump into a solution of haztabs and water as per manufacture instruction, leave for 10-15 minutes to soak. Place the pipe from the drain outlet and place in the tub with the pump.
10. Turn the pump on, holding the pipe securely and flush through for 1 minute.
11. Reconnect the pipe to the drain outlet and empty tub contents. Rinse tub out, dry and place pump to air dry in a well-ventilated area.

Place all contaminated single use items into the clinical waste bin.