


## All Areas

# Cleaning & Accessing Water Coolers

## March 26, 2020

<p><b>What's New?</b></p>	<p>New Procedure for the practice of cleaning and using non-hospital grade water coolers.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>
<p><b>Why?</b></p>	<p>Non-hospital grade water coolers are not recommended by Infection control because of the risk of spread of illness from this high-touch surface and the lack of standard and consistent cleaning protocols.</p> <p>If non-hospital grade coolers are used, then this procedure should be followed by staff for cleaning and accessing for water.</p>
<p><b>How does this affect my practice?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use only a one-time use container/cup for getting water from a water cooler to prevent the risk of contamination of the water spout. This may then be used to transfer water to a reusable container.</li> <li>• Clean the surfaces of the water cooler 2 times each day with a disinfectant wipe.</li> <li>• Post a schedule by the cooler to account for completion of cleaning.</li> </ul>
<p><b>How do I find out more?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access the full (interim) procedure on ePOPS: <a href="#">Cleaning &amp; Accessing Water Coolers</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Who do I contact for further information?</b></p>	<p>Contact your unit educator or professional practice leader</p>