

Information for health workers

Cleaning and disinfecting virtual reality equipment

Virtual care provides an effective platform to engage clinicians and provide safe and efficient care to patients. Virtual reality (VR) is used as a method of education and training delivery.

VR Head Mounted Displays (HMD) are non-critical devices used for VR-based education. The HMD comes into contact with the user's face and hair, and the controls come into contact with the user's hands. The headsets can be shared between different users and may be used in either a home or healthcare setting. Different types of VR equipment have different cleaning options. Each manufacturer of VR equipment offers options on how to clean their products. General tips are provided below that could be applied to most VR equipment.

Figure 1: Example of HMD (left) and handheld controllers (right)

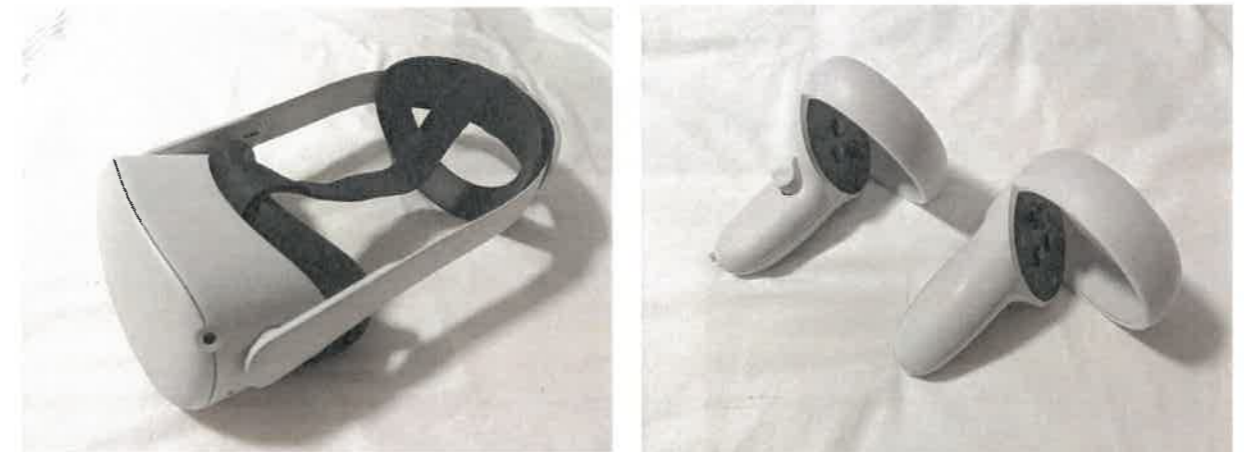


Figure 2: Example of velcro fastening on HMD



When using HMDs, the following need to be addressed:

- Velcro elements of the HMD cannot be cleaned or disinfected and should be replaced with a fastening system, such as a buckle clip or ratchet system, that is cleanable.
- Ensure the facial interface is wipeable and replaceable. Otherwise, use a disposable, impervious barrier layer between the user and the facial interface.