Considerations When Cleaning Assisted Living Facilities

Because they are homes as well as care facilities, there are some special cleaning and disinfecting challenges, including:

- Carpet, curtains, and decorations in the rooms
- Medication and mobile treatment carts
- Shared dining areas
- Different regulations than acute care

Just like in any care environment, residents need to be treated in a way that maintains or enhances their dignity and recognizes and respects their individuality. This means:

- Respecting residents’ privacy and property
  - Knock and ask permission to enter (wait for them to respond).
  - Ask permission to inspect and clean personal possessions.
  - Don’t move things (if you move it to clean, put it back).
  - Don’t look through drawers or closets.
  - Don’t change TV or radio stations.

- No posting or sharing confidential clinical and personal information

- Cleaning and disinfecting on their schedule, not yours