

## CHLOR-ALKALI TO THE RESCUE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19

- **Disposal of used infected masks:** Used Masks to be disinfected with *1% Solution of Sodium Hypochlorite* or 5% Solution of ordinary *bleach solution*, followed by either burning or deep burial – Advisory issued by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India (<https://www.mohfw.gov.in/DraftUseofmaskbypublic.pdf>)
- **Disinfection of surfaces and re-usables:** For disinfection of surfaces and the re-usables, *0.5% Sodium Hypochlorite Solution* are highly recommended – WHO and UNICEF WASH-IPC 2020 Document on Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Waste Management for the COVID-19 Virus (<https://www.who.int/publications-detail/water-sanitation-hygiene-and-waste-management-for-covid-19>)
- **Disinfection for distribution of Drinking Water:** *Minimum 0.5 ppm Free Residual Chlorine* for 30 minutes in water distribution to be maintained – WHO and UNICEF WASH-IPC 2020 Document on Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Waste Management for the COVID-19 Virus (<https://www.who.int/publications-detail/water-sanitation-hygiene-and-waste-management-for-covid-19>)
- **Sanitation & Hygiene:** Toilets and the handling of faeces: If a bedpan is used, after disposing of excreta from it, the bedpan should be cleaned with a neutral detergent and water, disinfected with a *0.5% chlorine solution*, and then rinsed with clean water; the rinse water should be disposed of in a drain or a toilet or latrine – WHO and UNICEF WASH-IPC 2020 Document on Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Waste Management for the COVID-19 Virus (<https://www.who.int/publications-detail/water-sanitation-hygiene-and-waste-management-for-covid-19>)
- **Hospital Cleaning and Disinfection:** *Sodium hypochlorite at 0.5%* (equivalent to 5000 ppm or 1 part household bleach of 5% sodium hypochlorite to 9 parts water) for disinfecting surfaces; If the towels are single use, they should be treated as infectious waste; if they are reusable, they should be treated as soiled linens. The area should then be cleaned and disinfected (with, for example, *0.5% free chlorine solution*) – WHO and UNICEF WASH-IPC 2020 Document on Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Waste Management for the COVID-19 Virus (<https://www.who.int/publications-detail/water-sanitation-hygiene-and-waste-management-for-covid-19>)