Laundry Tour Inspection Checklist for Infection Preventionists

Maintaining a safe healthcare environment starts with ensuring that healthcare textiles meet rigorous infection control standards. This comprehensive checklist outlines the essential elements to evaluate during a site visit, including critical steps and compliance requirements throughout the hygienically clean laundry process. Use this as a guide to verify best practices and uphold the highest standards of cleanliness and safety.

Soiled Textiles - Handling & Processing

- 1. Are soiled textiles contained in leak-resistant bags to minimize exposure?
- Are Universal/Standard Precautions being followed including the use of PPEwhen sorting soiled textiles?
- 3. Is there necessary signage to communicate to employees that Universal/Standard Precautions must be followed?
- 4. Is a sharps container and non-sharps medical waste container in the soil area?
- 5. Is there a cart washing process to clean and disinfect carts used for soil transport before loading them with clean textiles?
- 6. Is the workflow designed to prevent risk of cross-contamination with clean textiles?
- 7. Are there hand hygiene stations for employees to use, such as sinks with soap and hand sanitizing dispensers?

Laundry Facility & Equipment

- Is there separation between soil and clean sides, either via a physical or spatial barrier?
- 2. Is there proper ventilation in the facility, either a negative air flow to pull clean air to the soil side or positive air flow pushing air from the clean side to soil?
- 3. Is the proper preventative maintenance and calibration performed on the facility equipment according to manufacturer's recommendations?
- 4. Are wash formulas designed to use the proper chemicals and wash temperatures for the removal of microbiological contaminants?
- 5. Are wash formulas evaluated according to the chemical vendor's recommendations?

Clean Textiles - Handling & Processing

- 1. Are floors, walls, and ceilings clean, intact, and free of dust, lint, and dirt?
- 2. Are employees wearing clean uniforms and garments appropriate for their job responsibilities?
- 3. Are employees following facility policies and procedures to prevent crosscontamination of textiles?
- 4. Are there cleaning protocols on the clean side to maintain hygienically clean textiles?
- 5. Are measures in place to protect the integrity of the hygienically clean process during clean textile handling and processing?
- 6. Are clean textiles covered and stored on non-porous surfaces?
- 7. Are the clean textiles subject to an inspection by employees to check for stains, tears, and foreign objects before packaging?
- 8. Are there hand hygiene stations for employees to use, such as sinks with soap and hand sanitizing dispensers?

YES / NO	

YES / NO **Storage of Clean Textiles** 1. Are textile storage areas free of dirt and debris? 2. Are there any stained ceiling tiles in textile storage areas? 3. Are textiles that are ready for transport covered and stored on non-porous surfaces? 4. Are textiles stored in a manner that allows for standard operation of ventilation, lighting, and fire sprinklers? Trucks & Transportation 1. Is functional separation of soiled and clean textiles maintained during transportation and deliverv? 2. Are employees trained in proper hand hygiene and use of PPE when handling soiled textiles? 3. Are trucks cleaned on a regular basis to avoid cross-contamination of clean and soiled textiles? 4. Are trucks equipped with appropriate PPE, hand sanitizer, and BBP Spill Kits? 5. Are soiled textile carts secured properly in the vehicle to prevent spillage? General Conditions & Documentation 1. Does the facility have a documented and active pest control program in place? 2. Is there documentation of a plant cleaning schedule for the different areas of the facility? 3. Are the overall conditions of the plant clean, organized, and functioning in a manner to process and maintain hygienically clean textiles? Employee Training & Documentation 1. Is there a complete Exposure Control Plan in place at the laundry facility (Per OSHA 29 CFR 1910.1030 Bloodborne Pathogens Required Practices Standard)? 2. Does the laundry keep records of employee training for Bloodborne Pathogens and Hazard Communication? 3. Are employees trained on the proper disposal of sharps, non-sharps medical waste, and broken glass? 4. Does the plant comply with OSHA Standards for Hepatitis B Vaccinations? YES / NO **Certification & Accreditation** 1. Is the facility certified or accredited by a third party?



Hygienically Clean Healthcare Certification Program

Hygienically Clean Healthcare Certification recognizes a laundry facility's dedication to maintaining cleanliness by verifying its processes through third-party audits and measurable microbiological testing. This certification helps reduce risks and ensures the highest standards of hygiene and safety in the processing of uniforms and linens.