

## Checklist: Laundry and textile hygiene in healthcare

- Make sure that the factors combined in the laundry process are providing the suitable hygiene efficacy. Temperatures above 60°C ensure high antimicrobial effects even without chemical disinfectants. When lower temperatures are used, detergents with activated oxygen bleach or additives can be used.
- Consider the health status of the person's laundry is prepared for. In case of higher-risk-groups, such as babies, elderly persons, pregnant women or immunocompromised persons, a higher level of hygiene is required.
- The washing machine itself provides a considerable source of microorganisms and thus should be cleaned on a regular basis.
- Appliances for domestic do not always reach the chosen temperature. Therefore, professional washing machines should be considered for industrial or institutional purposes or whenever a certain hygiene efficacy is required.

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