Guidance for the Disinfection of Electronics

Frequently touched electronics (including touch screens, displays, mouse and keyboards, computers, remotes, printers/copiers and other devices) should be disinfected before and after use, especially if the devices are shared between multiple users. Electronic equipment for individual use should also be disinfected on a routine basis.

General disinfection guidance:

- Follow the instructions from the manufacturer for the disinfection of electronics when available.
- Consider putting a wipeable cover on electronics when possible to facilitate the disinfection and protect the devices.
- Power off devices and disconnect all power sources, including batteries before applying disinfectant.
- Choose an appropriate disinfectant:
  - Follow the manufacturer recommendations when available.
  - Consider using 70% alcohol solutions, such as 70% isopropanol.
  - Other disinfectants that are EPA-approved for use against SARS-CoV-2 (list available here) can be used, but not all disinfectants are appropriate to use on electronics and different materials.
  - Do not use bleach on electronic devices since it is corrosive and can damage the equipment.
  - Never mix multiple cleaning/disinfecting chemicals together.
- Application of disinfectant:
  - Never spray disinfectant directly onto electronic devices. Use soft lint-free or microfiber cloths to apply the disinfectant. Paper towels can be used in some cases, but avoid abrasive cloths/towels and consider the nature and durability of the materials to be disinfected.
  - Cloths should be damp with disinfectant, but not dripping wet. Remove excess moisture from cloth before applying to the electronic device.
  - Gently apply the disinfectant to the surfaces. Avoid excessive wiping and allowing disinfectant to get inside electronic devices.
  - Keep surfaces moist for the time listed on the disinfectant label. Always follow the product directions from the manufacturer. If using 70% alcohol solution, use at least a 1 minute contact time.
- Let the surfaces air dry completely before reconnecting the power sources.

Adapted from:

1. CDC - Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility
2. Dell - Guidance for Keeping Your Dell Technologies Equipment Clean
3. Apple - How to clean your Apple products
4. Microsoft - Clean and care for your Surface
5. HP - How to Clean Your Computer