Standard Operating Procedure - Mattress and pillow cleaning

The following procedure is to be referred to by all staff members who carry out the procedure of cleaning mattresses & pillows. Mattresses and pillows should be cleaned every time that the bed is vacated through home leave, discharge from hospital and every time that the bed is routinely changed during a service user’s inpatient stay.

The following items are required to undertake this activity:
- Disposable gloves;
- White disposable apron;
- Detergent;
- Blue cloths;
- Bowl with clean warm water;
- Paper towels.

**Step 1**
Wipe the mattress from top to bottom using hot water, detergent and blue cloth

**Step 2**
Dry thoroughly using paper towels

**Step 3**
Clean as per mattress

Each time that the mattress is cleaned staff should:
- Check the outside cover for damage or stains;
- If damaged or stained condemn and replace the mattress immediately.

Each time the pillow is cleaned staff should:
- Check the cover for damage or stains;
- If damaged or stained condemn and replace the pillow immediately.