



## **General Sanitation Protocols**

### **Overview**

Due to the fragile nature of HPA! kittens, the Cat Foster Program has many recommended/required sanitation protocols in place to protect their health and to prevent and contain contagion.

### **Feeding Cleaning**

- Wash your hands with soap before each feeding.
- If you come into direct contact with feces, urine, or vomit, wash your hands thoroughly. Scrub under your fingernails with brushes and soap.
- Be careful when handling kittens and anything in their crates that may be contaminated and then handling clean supplies and food.
- Be aware of kittens' contact with clothing especially when ill; contagions can be transferred to human clothing.
- If kittens have ringworm or Panleuk, be extra diligent about touching things. Wash your hands with soap more frequently.
- When feeding kittens, always cover your lap or table area with a towel or a clean puppy pad.
- Cleaning Solutions included: Bleach that is diluted at a 1:10 ratio (bleach to water is recommended to be used when working with ringworm and Panleuk) or Rescue is another great choice for sanitizing surfaces and use as directed on the label
- All surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected between litters. This includes but is not limited to scales, pens and markers, snuggle discs, crates, work surfaces, and chairs.
- Once a utensil, bowl or bottle has touched the food of one litter, it should not be used to mix food for another litter. If it does, that food cannot then be shared amongst other litters.

### **Carrier, Cage, and Collapsible Crate Cleaning**

- Clean thoroughly with a Bleach Solution mixed at 1:10 ratio or Rescue between uses.
- Spray with disinfectant, let set for 1-3 minutes and wipe clean.

### **Litter Box Cleaning**

- Litter should be scooped daily however if kittens have been diagnosed with parasites like coccidia, change out all the litter daily to prevent reinfection.

- When changing out litter to fresh litter, clean the litter box thoroughly with a bleach solution mixed at 1:10 ratio or Rescue between uses.
- Spray with disinfectant, let set for 1-3 minutes and wipe clean.

### **Dishwashing**

- Soak syringes and bottles by separating syringes from plungers and bottle caps from nipples before placing them in a dish bin.
- Pour any remaining KMR out of bottles and rinse before placing them in a dish bin.
- Wipe off any gruel from dishes into the trash before placing them in a dish bin or the dishwasher.
- Hand-wash all syringes, nipples, and bottle caps—do **not** put them in the dishwasher.

### **Laundry**

- Shake out all laundry into the trash before putting it into the hamper or washing machine. No solid matter should be left on laundry in the hamper, as it can spread contagion, and can also clog the washing machine filter.
- Items should be placed loosely in the washer and not packed in tightly.
- Put soft toys in the washer; put hard toys in the dishwasher. Hard toys can get caught in the washer and cause damage.
- Use 3/4 cup of bleach or Rescue with every regular size load of laundry and run on the sanitize cycle if possible **AND** must use the dryer on a High Heat cycle to sanitize clean laundry
- If you receive rice socks with your litter, throw them away—they cannot be sanitized and reused.
- Always wash your hands before handling clean laundry, wet or dry.
- Always clean the lint filter in the dryer before starting.

### **Foster Waiting Periods after Ringworm & Panleuk**

If you have fostered a litter with Ringworm or Panleuk and the kittens have been quarantined to a smaller area that all surfaces can be completely disinfected, there is no waiting period to receiving a new litter. However, if you kittens have had free range to your home and a complete disinfection is more difficult, HPA! requires a 12-week waiting period before receiving a new litter.

A complete disinfection includes disinfecting all surfaces with 3 Cleanouts using a bleach solution mixed at 1:10 ratio or Rescue, use as directed, for 3 consecutive days. Washing all blankets with a bleach solution or Rescue **AND** using the dryer on HIGH HEAT. It is recommended to throw away all plastic bottles, nipples and syringes that cannot be sanitized in the dishwasher, especially in the case of Panleuk.