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Virologie, Mikrobiologie, Hygiene

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Expert Opinion

**on the effectiveness of the cleaning and disinfection process
for fire brigade protection masks in the washer disinfectator**

TopClean M from Meiko

against Corona Viruses, as well as against

the new Coronavirus (SARS CoV-2)

Corona viruses belong to the group of enveloped viruses. They usually cause mild respiratory or intestinal infections in humans. The newly emerged species SARS CoV-2 makes an exception in this point because it can also cause a life-threatening respiratory infection. In terms of its dangerousness, it roughly corresponds to the classic flu caused by the influenza A virus.

As an enveloped virus, however, the new pathogen is no more resistant to disinfectants or automated cleaning and disinfection processes than all other enveloped viruses. A special thermo resistance is not described for it, as well as for all other corona viruses. On the contrary, it can be assumed that corona viruses are already sensitive to temperatures from 60 °C to 70 °C.

The Meiko TopClean M washer disinfector is used for the reprocessing of protection masks of fire brigades. In its disinfection process, it works either with the disinfectant **Sekumatic FDR** (based on Glucoprotamine) or **EW80 mat** (based on quaternary ammonium compounds, QAV).

The other process parameters are in both cases:

Use a 1% solution of the disinfectant at a temperature of 60 °C with a contact time of 6 minutes. Under these conditions, full effectiveness against Corona viruses, in particular also against SARS CoV-2, is expected for both disinfection methods.

Conclusion:

For inactivation of Corona viruses as well as of any other enveloped virus the standard reprocessing procedure for protection masks can strictly recommended:

- **Cleaning and disinfection machine: TopClean M from Meiko**
- **Disinfectant products: Sekumatic FDR or EW80 mat and each product must be used as a 1% solution at 60 ° C and a contact time of 6 minutes.**



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