STATE OF INDIANA

Eric J. Holcomb
Governor

Indiana State Department of Toxicology

Justus E. Littlejohn
Director

March 23, 2020

Re: Recommendations from Intoximeters on Operation and Cleaning Breath Test Instruments

In response to COVID-19, the Intox EC/IR II breath test instrument manufacturer, Intoximeters, has released cleaning recommendations for handheld and desktop breath test instruments, as well as answered FAQs (see links below).

If cleaning of a breath test instrument is performed, **do not** pour or spray cleaners or disinfectants directly on the instrument or equipment. Instead, use a damp cloth to wipe the keyboard, breath tube, instrument case, etc. Since many cleaners contain alcohol, wait **15 minutes** after all residual liquid has evaporated prior to administering a breath test. Residual alcohol in the air can cause instrument status messages related to blank checks and environmental conditions which would prevent a subject test from being performed.

Recommendations from Intoximeters also include:
wearing gloves when administering tests, washing hands frequently, operating the instrument in a manner that the subject and operator are least exposed to possible disease transmission, and utilizing one-way mouthpieces on evidentiary instruments.

Below are links provided by Intoximeters.

FAQs:
https://www.intox.com/ufaqs/what-precautions-should-be-taken-during-a-subject-test-to-protect-against-the-spread-of-coronavirus-covid-19-or-other-pathogens/

https://www.intox.com/ufaqs/are-there-steps-i-can-take-to-limit-my-exposure-to-the-possibility-of-disease-transmission-when-operating-a-breath-alcohol-detection-device/

Infection Control, Cleaning, and Disinfecting Intoximeters Desktop Instruments:
https://3gxou93ihow7rltj72rrjmb1-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Infection-Control-Cleaning-and-Disinfecting-Intoximeters-Desktop-Instruments.1.pdf

Infection Control, Cleaning, and Disinfecting Intoximeters Handheld Breath Testing Instruments:
https://3gxou93ihow7rltj72rrjmb1-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Infection-Control-Cleaning-and-Disinfecting-Intoximeters-Handheld-Instruments.3.pdf

If you have any questions regarding the cleaning or operation of the Intox EC/IR II, please contact Dana Bors at dbors@isdt.in.gov.

Regards,

Dana Bors

Dana Bors, PhD
Breath Test Program Supervisor

550 W. 16th Street, Suite A, Indianapolis, IN 46202
(T) 317-921-5000 (F) 317-925-9430
Website: www.in.gov/isdt