

Christmas and infection prevention and control

in our healthcare facilities

Christmas Decorations

- Decorations assist in boosting staff and patient morale, especially for those in hospital over Christmas.
- Ensure that decorations do not clutter the environment, hinder cleaning or pose an infection risk.

Decorations
can be installed
from 1 – 31
December
2025

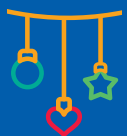
Recommendations for decorations in clinical areas:



Aim for decorations that are easily cleaned eg. laminated posters, photos.



Place decorations where they are out of reach and can't be touched by hands.



Avoid hanging decorations from walls or ceilings where they will attract dust and cannot be routinely cleaned eg. garlands, strings of paper or tinsel decoration.



Tinsel and glitter should not be placed in a patient care zone.



Clean your decorations and store dry – discard any items that are damaged or unable to be cleaned.



Choose decorations that are easily removed without leaving any attachment markings.



Do not use balloons as they can contain latex.



Decorations such as fairy lights should not be left in place after the Christmas period due to the risk of dust collection and inability to be cleaned.

To find out more, contact Infection Management
infection.control@mater.org.au

References:

1. Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare (2019) – national Health and Medical research Council (NHMRC)
2. NSW Government. Clinical Excellence Commission. SHPN (CEC)230759. October 2023.