

# Environmental Surface Contamination with SARS-CoV-2: Toilets as the Most Contaminated Surfaces in COVID-19 Referral Hospital

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The possibility of surface transmission in hospitals with high density of COVID-19 patients is unneglectable. The aim of this study is to determine the extent of surface contamination in coronavirus central hospital of Ilam province in western Iran. MATERIALS AND METHODS: In this experimental study, 205 samples were taken from environmental surfaces in hospital. SARS-CoV-2 RNA detected by Real-time RT-PCR. RESULTS: 121 out of 205 (50.02) samples were positive. The most contaminated objects were toilet sites (5/5, 100 ICU; 5/5, 100 isolation wards). CONCLUSION: High surface contamination with SARS-CoV-2 proposes the surface as a potential route of transmission.

**Keywords:** COVID-19; SARS-CoV-2; environmental; environmental hygiene; hospital; surface contamination.