Vancouver Coastal Health
Promoting wellness. Ensuring care.

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HOW TO HANDLE BED BUGS IN A HOTEL

PATRON COMPLAINS OF BITES IN THE NIGHT

BLOOD SPOTTING OR FLECKS ON SHEETS, BED OR FURNITURE

INSECTS OBSERVED IN SUITE

- Inspect bedding and upholstered furniture for live bed bugs, eggs, exoskeletons, fecal staining, or blood spots on sheets
- Inspect cracks and crevices near sleeping, sitting, or resting areas

INSECT IDENTIFIED AS A BED BUG

SET UP MONITORING STATIONS

NO BED BUG FOUND

STAFF / MANAGEMENT

- Continue monitoring suite for signs of bed bug or other insect activity
- Prevent getting bed bugs by being vigilant, monitoring, and being proactive
- For more information, contact your local health department

PATRONS

- Always hang up clothing and place belongings off the floor (e.g. on a folding luggage rack)
- Advise hotel manager immediately of bed bug sighting
- Request a move to a different room
- Check all personal belongings before re-packing to prevent spreading of bed bugs
- Upon return home, check all items when unpacking
- Properly contain and seal bed bug infested items before treating or discarding

HOTEL MANAGEMENT

- Contact a professional pest control company
- Follow all instructions regarding preparation for treatment
- Monitor surrounding suites for bed bugs
- Prevent the spread of bed bugs to other rooms by being vigilant and training hotel staff
- Record information
- Communicate with cleaning staff to prevent the spread

PRO-ACTIVE MEASURES BY HOTEL MANAGEMENT

- Contract a reputable licensed pest control company
- Act quickly to prevent the spread of bed bugs
- Keep records of pest control treatments and pest complaints
- Implement a monitoring program throughout the building (including boxsprings, upholstered furniture, and behind headboards) - an Integrated Pest Management plan (IPM)
- Train housekeeping staff on what bed bugs look like, the protocol, and provide information on preventing the spread of bed bugs
- Ensure the correct disposal of goods from infested rooms to avoid the further spread of bed bugs
- Have a plan in place to regularly inspect items that travel from room to room for bed bug activities (e.g. vacuums, carts)
- Purchase and install bed bug proof mattress and box spring covers
- Consider furnishings that are light in colour and of simple design (i.e. few cracks and crevasses for bed bugs to hide in)

IMPORTANT NOTES

Bed bugs are not associated with the transmission of human disease

Contact a professional pest control company if you suspect a bed bug problem