

# ENVIRONMENTAL ROUNDING ASSESSMENTS

## “WHAT TO LOOK FOR”

### AND

### Q & A

# OBJECTIVES

- Better understand best practices regarding environmental rounding
- Understand what types of common themes are found throughout facilities and know what to look for when rounding
- Assess the facility for safe and sanitary conditions
- Assess the facility and staff for infection prevention practices



# WHAT DOES THE ENVIRONMENT HAVE TO DO WITH IT?

- A facility's environment plays a vital role in preventing and controlling infection
- Environmental rounds = valuable information regarding the building, furnishings and staff practices!



# THE MISSION

- Accrediting organizations, like The Joint Commission for example, require hospitals to conduct environmental rounds twice a year in patient care areas and once per year in non-patient care areas.
- While health departments are not generally subject to these requirements, every health department's mission is to provide a safe, sanitary and comfortable environment for patients and staff.



# WHERE SHOULD I START?

- Entry Point
- Audit Tool
- Second Pair of Eyes



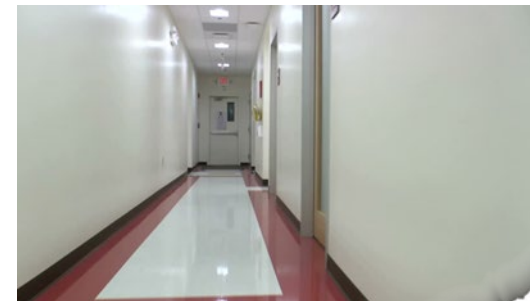
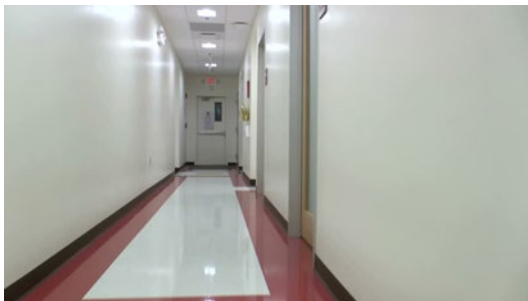
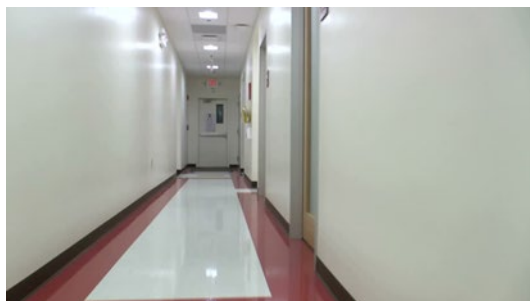
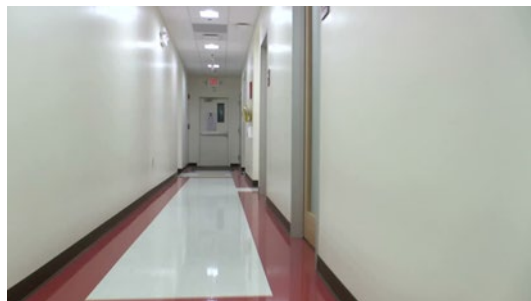
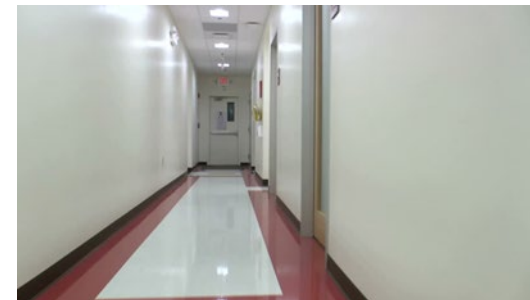
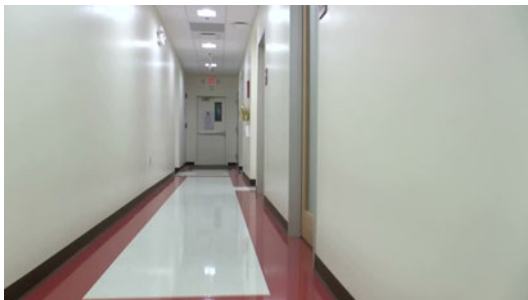
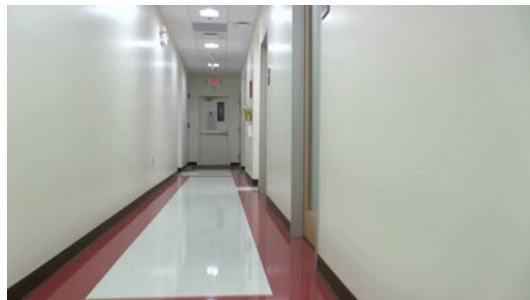
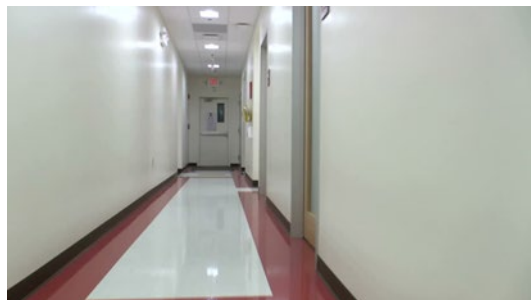
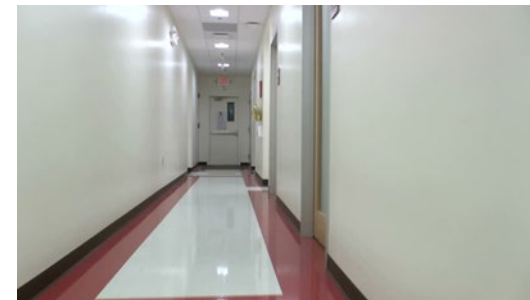
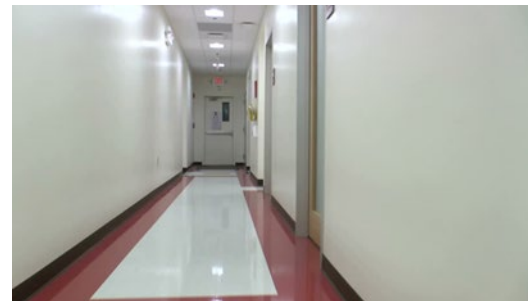
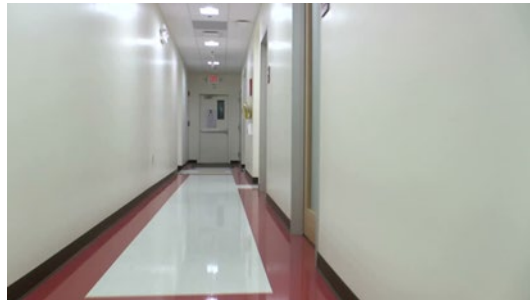
## ENVIRONMENTAL ROUNDS WORKSHEET FOR INFECTION PREVENTION

Facility	DATE:	Observer:
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C = Compliant; NC = Not compliant; CAC = Corrective action completed; FU = Follow-up required; NA = Not applicable

Criteria	C	NC	Finding or Comment	CAC	FU	NA
<b>Exam &amp; Treatment rooms</b>						
Floors & walls clean						
Walls are free of breaks and penetrations						
Bathroom clean						
Hand Hygiene Sink present with soap and paper towels						
Alcohol based hand rubs accessible						
Furniture clean, no tears or taped surfaces						
Counters free of clutter						
Gloves, PPE, available as per policy						
Cubicle curtains visible clean						
Policy for cleaning cubicle curtains						
No food or drink present						
Medical supplies/devices stored appropriately to reduce potential contamination (dust, healthcare personnel hands etc.,)						

# COMMON THEMES







# COMMON THEMES

## CEILING TILES





# COMMON THEMES

## WATER INTRUSION







# COMMON THEMES

## STORAGE UNDER SINKS





# COMMON THEMES

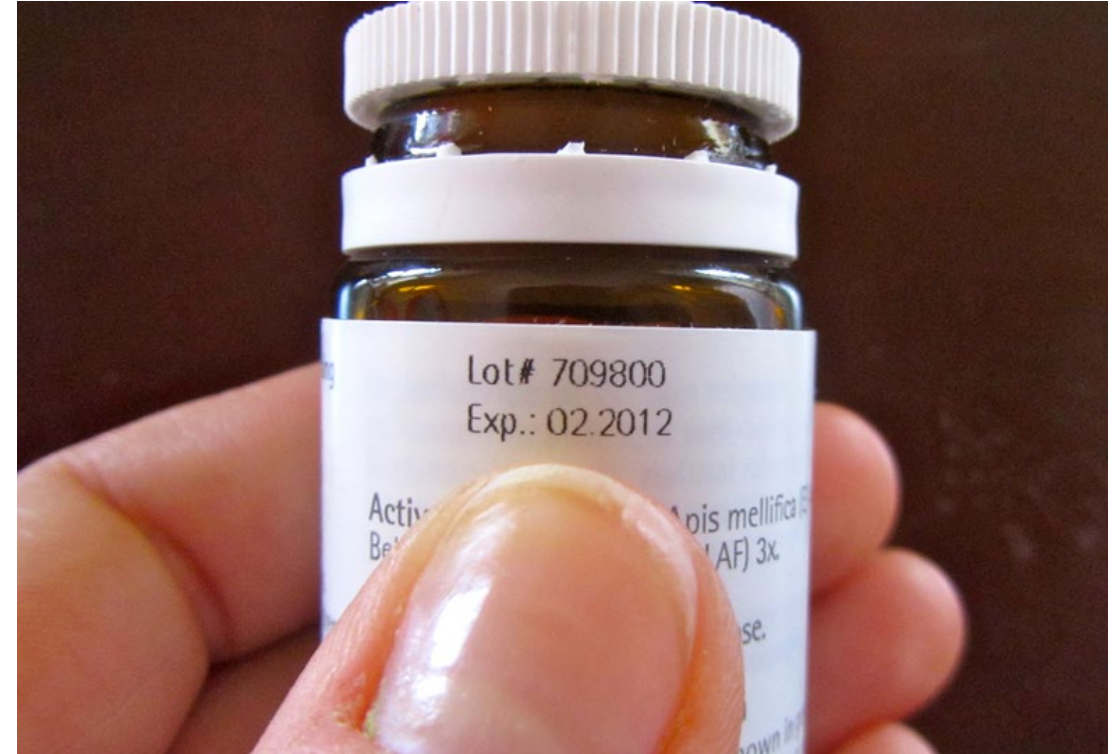
## PATIENT SUPPLIES & SINKS





# COMMON THEMES

## EXPIRED ITEMS







# COMMON THEMES FURNITURE/EXAM ROOMS





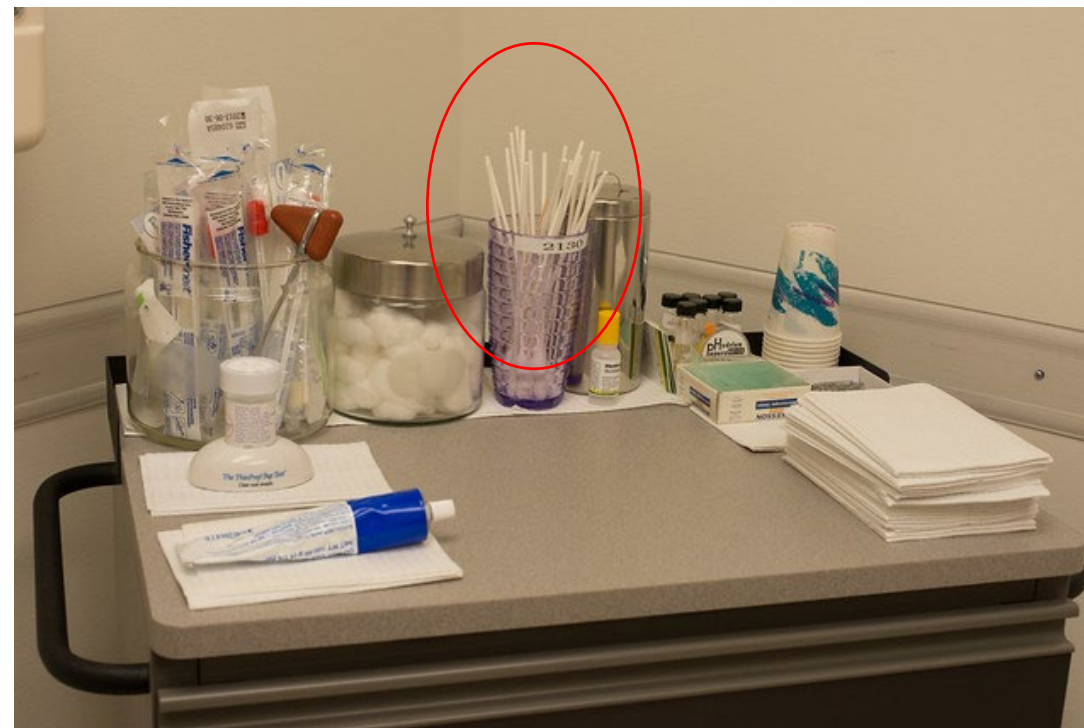
# COMMON THEMES SHARPS CONTAINERS





# COMMON THEMES

## PATIENT SUPPLIES







# COMMON THEMES

## FOOD & DRINK





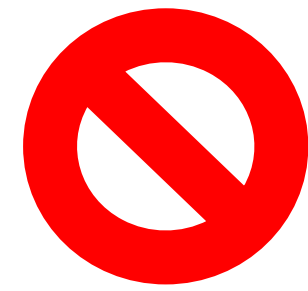
# COMMON THEMES

## RESPIRATORY STATIONS & SIGNAGE





# COMMON THEMES WAITING ROOM SPACING







# COMMON THEMES

## HALLWAY CLUTTER



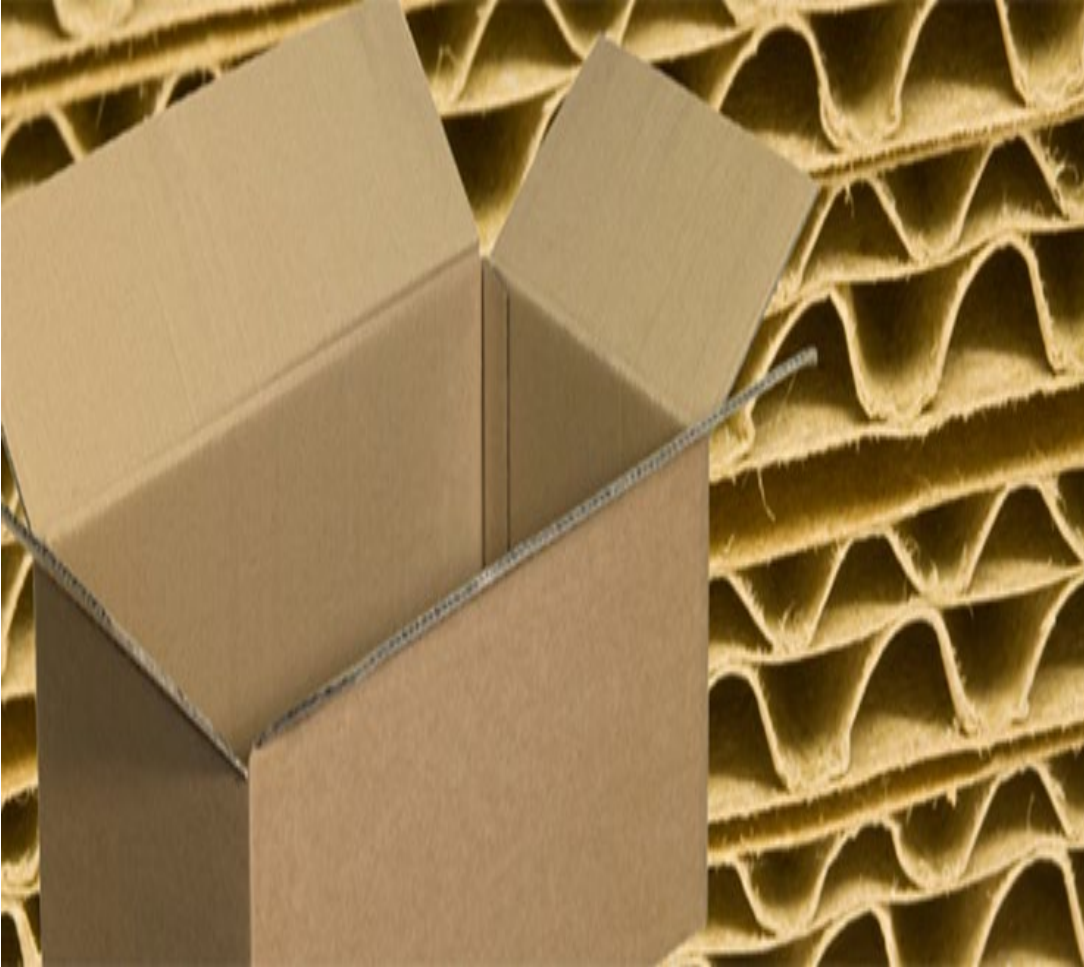
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# COMMON THEMES

## CORRUGATED BOXES





# COMMON THEMES

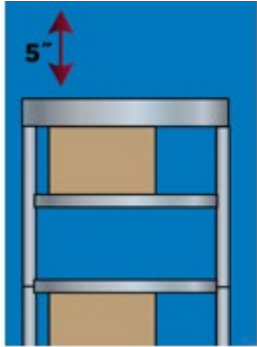
## CORRUGATED BOXES CONT'D



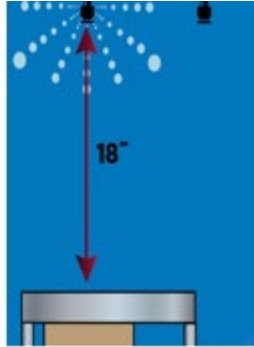




# COMMON THEMES STORAGE



OR



# OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ROUNDING AREAS OF CONCERN



# ASSISTED BLOOD GLUCOSE MONITORING

- Assisted blood glucose monitoring, while considered to be a benign procedure, has been identified as a major cause and been the mode of transmission for many hepatitis B outbreaks.
- Outbreaks have been linked to the infection control breaches shown here, including:
  - Sharing of blood glucose meters without disinfection and cleaning between uses, this is the most common breach.
  - Use of fingerstick devices or insulin pens for multiple people, and
  - Failure to perform hand hygiene or change gloves between procedures.



# RE-PROCESSING OF REUSABLE MEDICAL DEVICES

## Spaulding's classification of medical devices



critical item

***Contact with sterile  
body site and must be  
sterilized***



semi-critical item

***Contact with mucous  
membranes, non-intact skin  
and must be high-level  
disinfected***



low level disinfection

non-critical item

***Contact with intact skin  
and requires low-level  
disinfection***

# AIRBORNE INFECTION ISOLATION ROOM (AIIR)

- TB risk assessment, annually
- AIIR requirements
  - Negative pressure
  - Door shut
- Pressure Monitored
  - Tissue Test
  - Visual monitors
- Measles
- Chickenpox
- TB





# PHARMACY-MEDICATION AREA

- Cleanliness of area and no clutter
- Single dose
  - One time-one patient
- Multi-dose vials dated
  - Expiration date 28 days after opening OR
  - Contamination is suspected or confirmed
- No mingling of activities
- Medication refrigerators

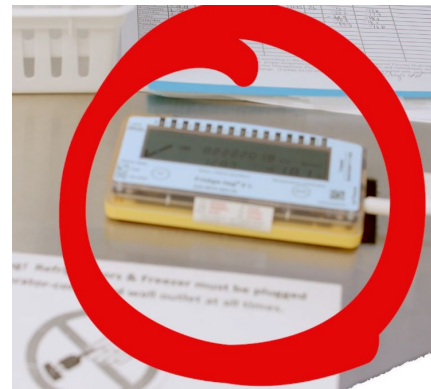




# MEDICATION AND VACCINE STORAGE



- Temperatures maintained at appropriate range in refrigerators and freezers
- Back up generator if power goes out
- Documentation system (electronic)
- Monitoring and alarm system 24//7



# LAB

- PPE storage
- Sharps container
- HH sink
- Soiled sink
- Supplies not within splash zone
- Specimen refrigerator
- Expiration dates on supplies
- Furniture good condition



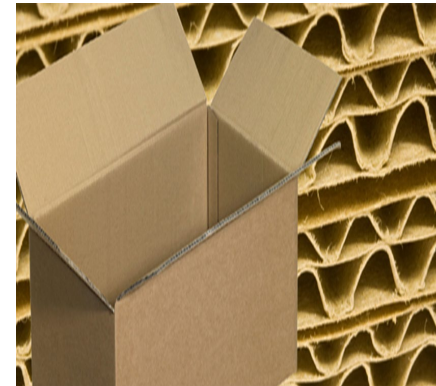
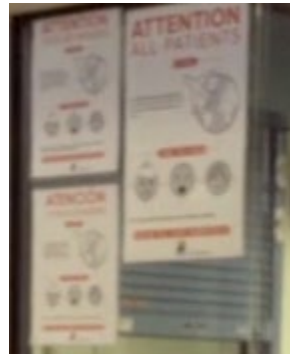
# SUMMARY OF COMMON THEMES

- Furniture (i.e., exam tables, chairs, stools) free of tears
- Accessibility of ABHRs
- Counters clutter free
- Sinks
- Privacy curtains
- Sharps containers
- Expiration of supplies/medications
- Spaced seating
- Blood glucose monitoring
- Medication/vaccine area/storage
- AIIRs



# SUMMARY OF COMMON THEMES

- Storage
- Hallways and corridors clean and free of clutter
- Respiratory Hygiene/Cough Etiquette Stations
- Ceiling tiles
- Corrugated boxes
- Water intrusion
- Food/drink
- Spaulding's classification



# CONCLUSIONS

- An organization's physical environment is integral to its ability to prevent and control infection.
- Environmental rounding provides valuable information about your building, its furnishings and equipment as well as staff practices.
- Tips for successful rounding
  - Use a standardized checklist
  - Establishing a routine schedule for conducting rounds
  - Include staff members in the process
  - Aggregate findings and feed back to staff and leadership

# RESOURCES & LINKS

- **Guidelines for Environmental Infection Control in Health-Care Facilities**

<https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/pdf/guidelines/environmental-guidelines-P.pdf>

- **Infection Prevention and Control Assessment Tool for Outpatient Settings**

<https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/pdf/icar/outpatient.pdf>

- **Guide to Infection Prevention for Outpatient Settings; Minimum Expectations for Safe Care**

<https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/pdf/outpatient/guide.pdf>

- **Statewide Program for Infection Control and Epidemiology**

<https://spice.unc.edu/>

- **SPICE's Tool for Success: Monitoring and Observation Tools; Environmental Rounds Tool**

<https://spice.unc.edu/tools-for-success/>



# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

