

# 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



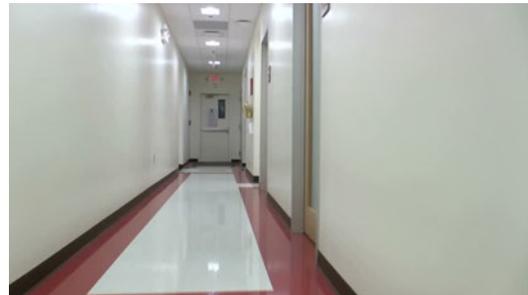
## ENVIRONMENTAL ROUNDS WORKSHEET FOR INFECTION PREVENTION

|          |       |           |
|----------|-------|-----------|
| Facility | DATE: | Observer: |
|----------|-------|-----------|

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



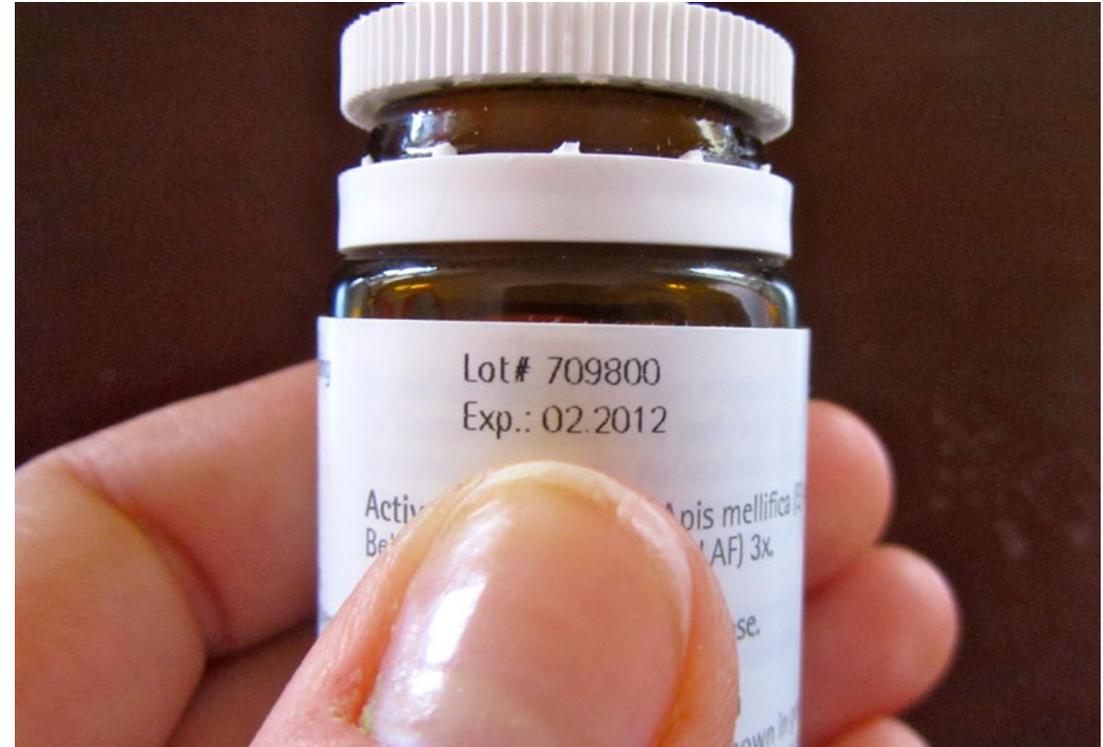


# COMMON THEMES PATIENT SUPPLIES & SINKS





# COMMON THEMES EXPIRED ITEMS





# COMMON THEMES FURNITURE/EXAM ROOMS





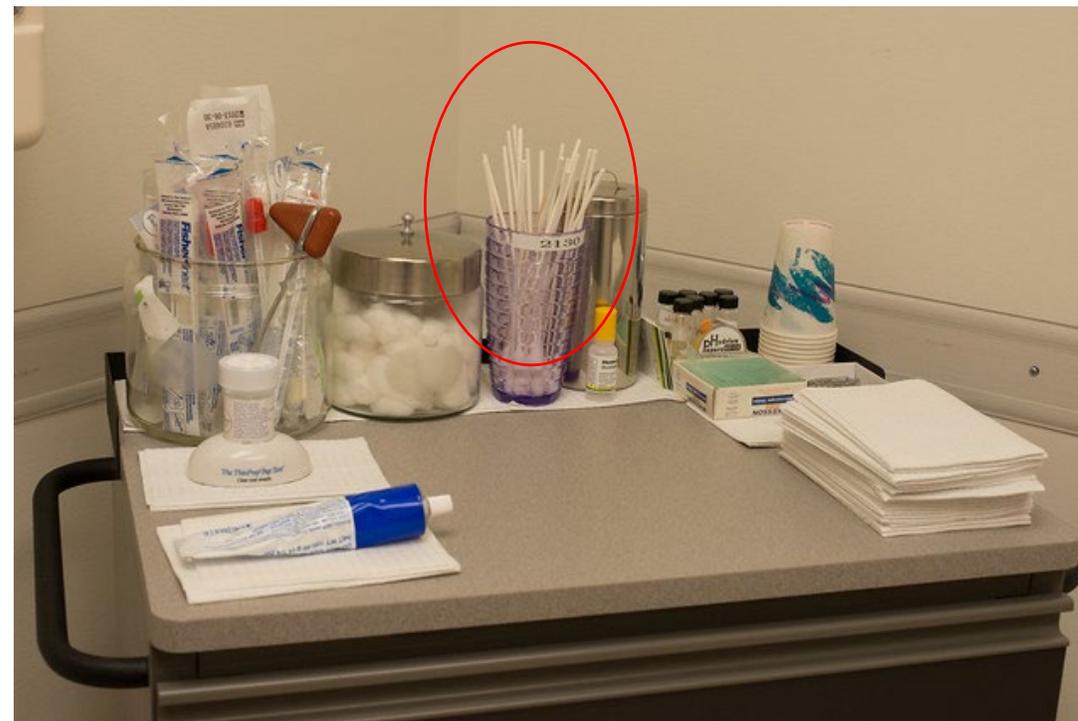
# COMMON THEMES SHARPS CONTAINERS





# COMMON THEMES

## PATIENT SUPPLIES





# COMMON THEMES

## FOOD & DRINK





# COMMON THEMES

## RESPIRATORY STATIONS & SIGNAGE





# COMMON THEMES WAITING ROOM SPACING





# COMMON THEMES

## HALLWAY CLUTTER



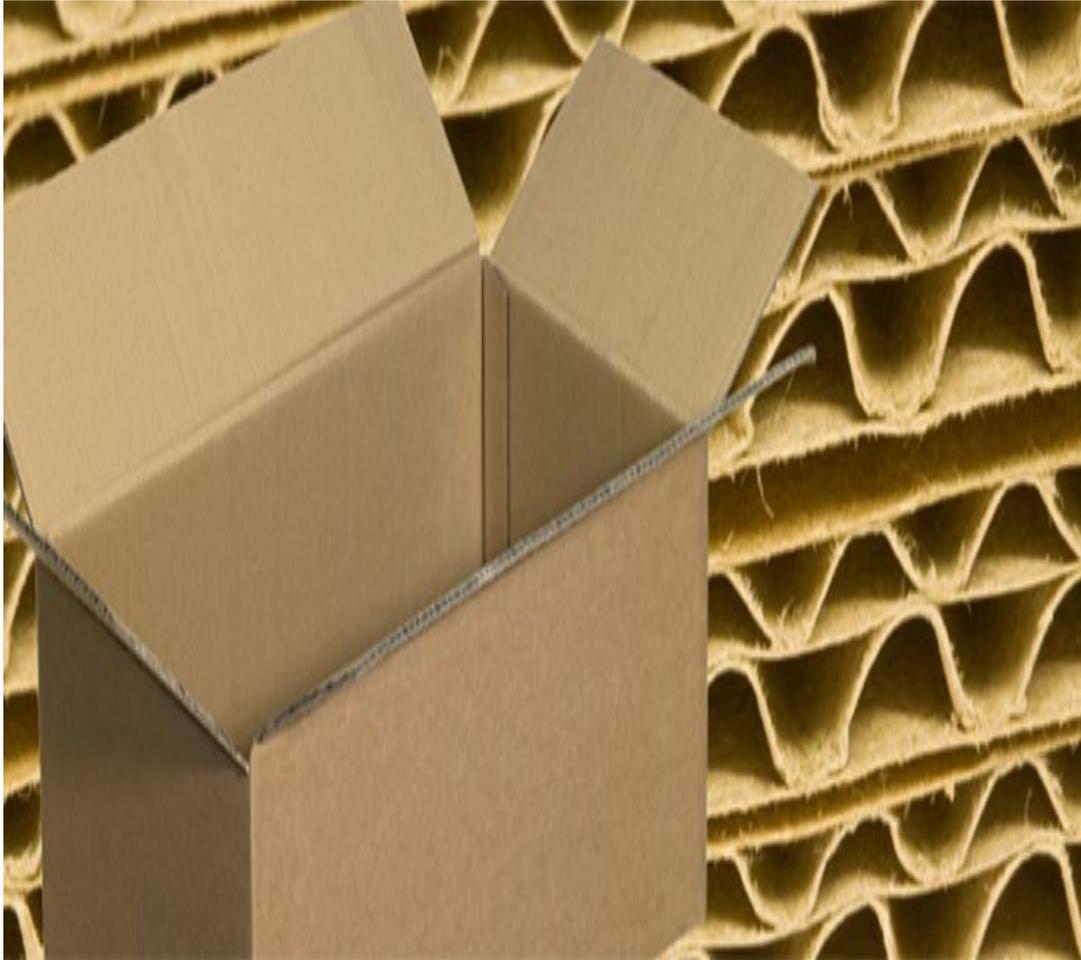
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# COMMON THEMES

## CORRUGATED BOXES





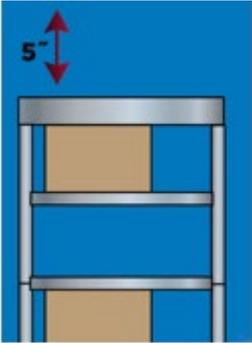
# COMMON THEMES

## CORRUGATED BOXES CONT'D

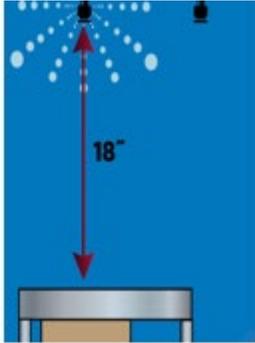




# COMMON THEMES STORAGE



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



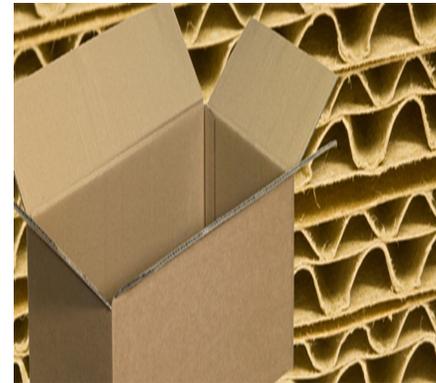
# SUMMARY OF COMMON THEMES

- 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

