




Infection Prevention in the Outpatient / Ambulatory Setting
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1

Disclosures

- Nothing to disclose



2

Objectives

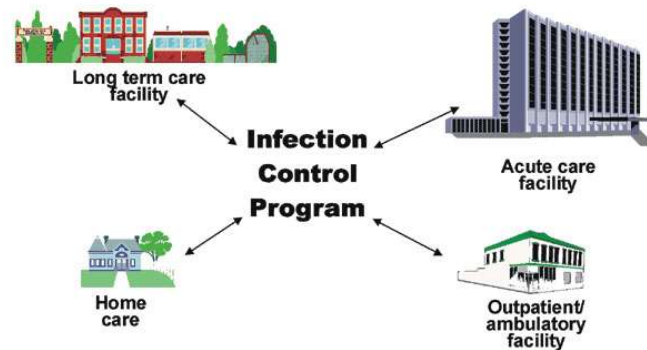


- ❖ Review the need for a focus on Infection Prevention in the outpatient and ambulatory care setting
- ❖ Describe infection prevention issues specific to the outpatient / ambulatory setting
- ❖ Describe potential issues that are looked for related to instrument reprocessing when performed in the outpatient / ambulatory setting

3

3

Patients Deserve Effective Infection Prevention Wherever They Receive Healthcare



Adapted from: Jarvis WR Emerg Infect Dis. 2001;7:170-3. Macedo de Olivera et al. Annals of Int Med. 2005, 11

4

4

Ambulatory Care Use and Physician Office Visits (U.S.)



- National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey: 2018
- 860.4 million physician office visits
- Interactive Summary Health Statistics for Adults: National Health Interview Survey, 2019-2020
 - Percent of adults who had a visit with a doctor or other health care professional in the past year: 83.4% (2020)
- Interactive Summary Health Statistics for Children: National Health Interview Survey, 2019-2020
 - Percent of children who had a visit with a doctor or other health care professional in the past year: 94.0% (2020)

Physician characteristic	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error of percent)	Number of visits per 100 persons per year ¹⁻³ (standard error of rate)
All visits	860,386 (37,935)	100.0 ...	267.1 (11.8)
Professional identity			
Doctor of medicine	803,404 (37,174)	93.4 (0.9)	249.4 (11.5)
Doctor of osteopathy	56,982 (7,561)	6.6 (0.9)	17.7 (2.3)
Specialty type ⁴			
Primary care	440,155 (31,474)	51.2 (2.3)	136.6 (9.8)
Medical specialty	216,262 (19,037)	25.1 (2.2)	67.1 (5.9)
Surgical specialty	203,969 (21,600)	23.7 (2.3)	63.3 (6.7)
Metropolitan status			
MSA ⁵	764,804 (37,461)	88.9 (2.4)	272.7 (13.4)
Non-MSA	95,582 (21,946)	11.1 (2.4)	229.4 (52.7)

Department of Infection Prevention | UNC Medical Center

5

Ambulatory Care Use and Physician Office Visits – UNC System (2018)



- Total # of visits 130.0 million
- >500 Emergency Department visits
- >3.5 million outpatient visits

6

OUTBREAKS AND PATIENT NOTIFICATIONS IN OUTPATIENT SETTINGS: 2010-2014



- These events occurred in a variety of outpatient settings including primary care clinics, pediatric offices, cosmetic surgery centers, pain remediation clinics, imaging facilities, cancer (oncology) clinics, dental clinics, and health fairs.

- This is not an exhaustive list, but it serves as a reminder of the serious consequences that can result when healthcare personnel fail to follow basic principles of infection control.

- <https://www.cdc.gov/hai/settings/outpatient/outbreaks-patient-notifications.html>

Setting	Year Investigated	Pathogens	Infections	Patient Notification Performed (if notified)	Infection Control Breaches
Surgical Center (2)	2014	N/A*	N/A*	Yes (1,100)	1) Reuse of syringes to access medication vials used for >1 patient 2) Failure to properly reprocess reusable medical equipment
Orthopedic Clinic (2)	2013	Staphylococcus aureus	Septic Arthritis	No	1) Complex preparation/compounding of injection materials involved extensive manipulations in the procedure room with opportunities for contamination
Plastic Surgery Center (2)	2013	N/A*	N/A*	Yes (415)	1) Reuse of syringes to access medication vials that may have been used for >1 patient
Pain Management Clinic (2)	2013	Hepatitis B Virus	Hepatitis	Yes (34)	1) Multiple procedural and infection control breaches were identified
Oral Surgery Clinic (2)	2013	Hepatitis C Virus	Hepatitis	Yes (5,810)	1) Mislabeling of injectable medications including reuse of single-dose vials of propofol 2) Inproper reprocessing of dental instruments
Plastic Surgery Center (2)	2013	Non-tuberculous mycobacteria, Other	Surgical Site Infection	No	1) Off-label use of lubricating gel directly on marine tissues 2) Reuse of single-use breast implants as sizers
Dental Clinic (2)	2013	N/A*	N/A*	Yes (100)	1) Suspected tampering with injectable controlled substances by a healthcare provider
Hematology/Oncology Clinic (2)	2012	Hepatitis C Virus	Hepatitis	Yes (300)	Specific issues in infection control not identified at the time of the investigation
Cosmetic Surgery Facilities (2)	2012	Group A Streptococcus	Necrotizing Fasciitis	No	1) Failure to wear surgical masks and gowns consistently 2) Dirty city equipment 3) No logs of autoclave use, maintenance, or performance checks

7

7

10A NCAC 41A .0206 INFECTION PREVENTION – HEALTH CARE SETTINGS




Specific to ambulatory settings

- Enacted in 1992


- North Carolina Administrative Code Rule 10A NCAC 41A .0206 (“Rule .0206”) establishes requirements for infection prevention in health care settings. According to the Rule .0206, every health care organization that performs invasive procedures is required to do the following:

1. Implement a written infection control policy;
2. Ensure that health care workers in its employ or who have staff privileges are trained in the principles of infection control and the practices required by the policy;
3. Require and monitor compliance with the policy; and
4. Update the policy as needed to prevent transmission of HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C and other bloodborne pathogens.

8



Rule .0206



10A NCAC 41A.0206
Infection Prevention-
Healthcare Settings

10A NCAC 41A.0206 INFECTION PREVENTION – HEALTH CARE SETTINGS

(a) The following definitions apply throughout this Rule:

- (1) "Health care organization" means a hospital, clinic, physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, or chiropractic office; home care agency; nursing home; local health department; community health center; mental health facility; hospice; ambulatory surgical facility; urgent care center; emergency room; Emergency Medical Service (EMS) agency; pharmacies where a health practitioner offers clinical services; or any other organization that provides clinical care.
- (2) "Invasive procedure" means entry into tissues, cavities, or organs or repair of traumatic injuries. The term includes the use of needles to puncture skin, vaginal and cesarean deliveries, surgery, and dental procedures during which bleeding occurs or the potential for bleeding exists.
- (3) "Non-contiguous" means not physically connected.

(b) In order to prevent transmission of HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C and other blood-borne pathogens each health care organization that performs invasive procedures shall implement a written infection control policy. The health care organization shall ensure that health care workers in its employ or who have staff privileges are trained in the principles of infection control and the practices required by the policy; require and monitor compliance with the policy; and update the policy as needed to prevent transmission of HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C and other blood-borne pathogens. The health care organization shall designate one on-site staff member for each noncontiguous facility to direct these activities. The designated staff member in each health care facility shall complete a course in infection control approved by the Department. The Department shall approve a course that addresses:

- (1) Epidemiologic principles of infectious disease;
- (2) Principles and practice of asepsis;
- (3) Sterilization, disinfection, and sanitation;
- (4) Universal blood and body fluid precautions;
- (5) Safe injection practices;
- (6) Engineering controls to reduce the risk of sharp injuries;
- (7) Disposal of sharps; and
- (8) Techniques that reduce the risk of sharp injuries to health care workers.

(c) The infection control policy required by this Rule shall address the following components that are necessary to prevent transmission of HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C and other blood-borne pathogens:

- (1) Sterilization and disinfection, including a schedule for maintenance and microbiologic monitoring of equipment; the policy shall require documentation of maintenance and monitoring;
- (2) Sanitation of rooms and equipment, including cleaning procedures, agents, and schedules;
- (3) Accessibility of infection control devices and supplies; and
- (4) Procedures to be followed in implementing 10A NCAC 41A .0202(4) and .0203(b)(4) when a health care provider or a patient has an exposure to blood or other body fluids of another person in a manner that poses a significant risk of transmission of HIV or hepatitis B.

(d) Health care workers and emergency responders shall, with all patients, follow Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guidelines on blood and body fluid precautions incorporated by reference in 10A NCAC 41A .0201.

(e) Health care workers who have exsufflative lesions or weeping dermatitis shall refrain from handling patient care equipment and devices used in performing invasive procedures and from all direct patient care that involves the potential for contact of the patient, equipment, or devices with the lesion or dermatitis until the condition resolves.

(f) All equipment used to puncture skin, mucous membranes, or other tissues in medical, dental, or other settings must be disposed of in accordance with 15A NCAC 13B .1200 after use or sterilized prior to reuse.

History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-144, 130A-145; 130A-147; Eff. October 1, 1992; Amended Eff. January 1, 2010; December 1, 2003; July 1, 1994; January 4, 1994.

9

Definitions



- "Healthcare organization" means:

- Hospital
- Clinic
- Physician Practice
- Dentist
- Podiatrist
- Optometrist, or
- Chiropractic office

- Home care agency
- Nursing Home
- Local health department
- Community health center
- Mental health facility
- Hospice

- Ambulatory surgical facility
- Urgent care center
- Emergency room
- Emergency medical service (EMS) agency
- Pharmacies where a health practitioner offers clinical services

***Or any other organization that provides clinical care**

10

Definitions



- “Invasive procedure” means entry into tissues, cavities or organs or repair of traumatic injuries. This includes:

- Use of needles to puncture skin
- Vaginal and cesarean deliveries
- Surgery
- Dental procedures during which bleeding occurs or the potential for bleeding exists



11



Dr. Zack Moore
State Epidemiologist



12

Infection Prevention Program Key Recommendations



Administrative:

- Develop and maintain infection prevention and occupational health programs.
- Develop written infection prevention policies and procedures appropriate for the services provided by the facility which are based on evidence-based guidelines, regulations and standards.
- Assure availability of sufficient and appropriate supplies necessary for adherence to Standard Precautions.
- Assure at least one individual with training in infection prevention is employed by or regularly available (by contract) to manage the facility's infection prevention program.

Education and Training:

- Provide job- or task- specific infection prevention education and training to all HCP upon hire, annually and when policies and procedures are updated/ revised.
 - Includes agency, contract and volunteer staff
- Focus on principles of Healthcare Personnel (HCP) safety and patient safety.
- Provided Competencies should be documented post each training.

13

13

Infection control policy



- **Infection control policy must include and address the following components necessary to prevent transmission of HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C and other bloodborne pathogens:**
 - Disinfection and Sterilization
 - Maintenance and microbiologic monitoring of equipment
 - Sanitation of rooms and equipment
 - Cleaning procedures, agents used and schedules
 - Accessibility of infection control devices and supplies
 - Personal protective equipment (PPE), safety sharps, etc.
 - A post-exposure follow-up program.



14

14

Infection control policies and procedures



- Facility infection prevention policies (hand hygiene, PPE, aseptic technique, etc.)
- Area specific policies
- Reporting possible communicable disease exposures to Health Department
- Attendance at Outpatient Infection Prevention (.0206) SPICE course – if clinic meets criteria

15

Communicable Disease Surveillance & Reporting



The screenshot shows the NCDHHS website with the following content:

- Navigation:** EPI HOME, Communicable Disease, A-Z Diseases & Topics, Facts & Figures, Programs & Services, Surveillance & Reporting, Disease Laws & Rules, About Us, Contact Us, Quick Links.
- Healthcare-Associated Infections:** HAI Surveillance & Reporting, Hospital-Based Public Health Epidemiologists, N.C. Communicable Disease Specialists, Veterinary Public Health, Related Programs: Immunization Branch, State Center for Health Statistics, State Laboratory of Public Health, OPH Privacy Statement.
- What is disease surveillance?** Public health disease surveillance is the ongoing, systematic collection, analysis and interpretation of the who, what, where, when and how of disease case occurrence in a population. All 50 states and United States territories have laws, statutes or other regulations that mandate reporting of communicable or infectious diseases and have the authority to collect and monitor a central repository of disease case information where patterns, clusters, and outbreaks may be detected. Although the list of reportable diseases may vary slightly from state to state, everyone uses the same criteria to define what constitutes a case of a given disease. These case definitions are standardized by the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists in consensus with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Timely and complete disease reporting allows public health practitioners to monitor and respond to the changing health status of their community. It also helps ensure that prevention activities reach the right people and that public health and community programs get the resources they need.
- back to top**

CHAPTER 41 - EPIDEMIOLOGY HEALTH
SUBCHAPTER 41A - COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL
SECTION .0100 - COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

10A NCAC 41A .0101 REPORTABLE DISEASES AND CONDITIONS
(a) The following named diseases and conditions are declared to be dangerous to the public health and are hereby made reportable within the time period specified after the disease or condition is reasonably suspected to exist:

- (1) acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) - 24 hours;
- (2) anthrax - immediately;
- (3) botulism - immediately;
- (4) brucellosis - 7 days;
- (5) **campylobacter infection - 24 hours;**
- (6) **Candida auris - 24 hours;**
- (7) **Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE) - 24 hours;**
- (8) **chlamydia - 24 hours;**
- (9) chikungunya virus infection - 24 hours;
- (10) chlamydial infection (laboratory confirmed) - 7 days;
- (11) cholera - 24 hours;
- (12) Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease - 7 days;
- (13) cryptosporidiosis - 24 hours;
- (14) cyclosporiasis - 24 hours;
- (15) dengue - 7 days;
- (16) diphtheria - 24 hours;
- (17) Escherichia coli, shiga toxin-producing - 24 hours;
- (18) ehrlichiosis - 7 days;
- (19) encephalitis, arboviral - 7 days;
- (20) foodborne disease, including Clostridium perfringens, staphylococcal, Bacillus cereus, and other and unknown causes - 24 hours;
- (21) gonorrhoea - 24 hours;
- (22) granuloma inguinale - 24 hours;
- (23) Haemophilus influenzae, invasive disease - 24 hours;

16

Designated Staff Member



- Designated staff member must complete a State approved course in infection prevention
 - Course curriculum developed by SPICE
 - SPICE has oversight of course
 - On the job training is not sufficient and “Train the Trainer” concept cannot be used
 - Upon completion of course will receive a certificate of completion
 - Serves as documentation of compliance with rule .0206



17

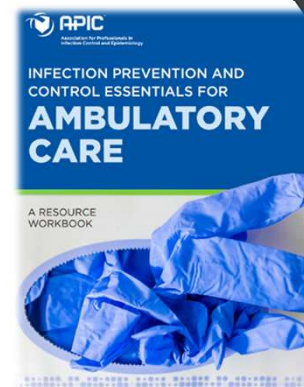
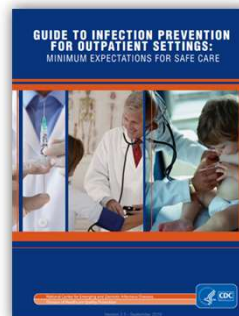
17

Standard Precautions/Minimum Expectations



The Basics

- Follow standard precautions with all patients
- Perform appropriate hand hygiene
- Use personal protective equipment (PPE) when indicated
- Follow transmission-based precautions when indicated
- Follow respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette principles
- Ensure appropriate patient placement
- Properly handle, clean and disinfect patient care equipment, instruments and supplies
- Clean and disinfect the environment appropriately
- Handle textiles and linen carefully
- Follow safe injection practices
- Ensure healthcare worker safety through proper handling of needles and other sharps



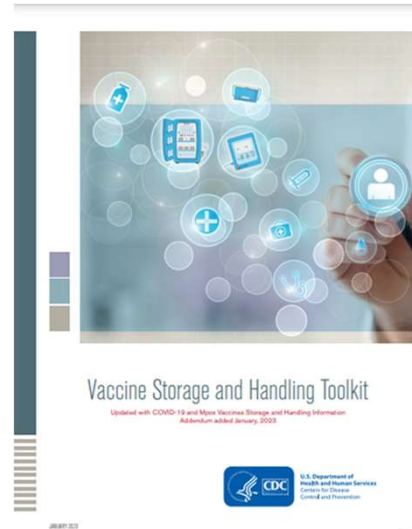
18

North Carolina Immunization Program



The VFC (Vaccines For Children) program:

- Provides federally purchased vaccine, for eligible children, at no charge to public and private providers
- Automatically covers vaccines recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), established by resolution and approved by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Very specific vaccine storage requirements

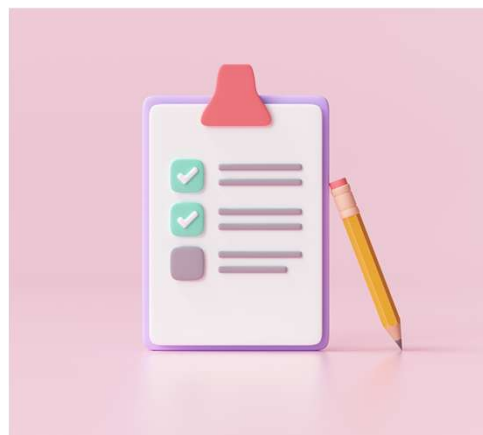


19

EDUCATION, TRAINING, COMPETENCIES & AUDITS



- Upon hire
- Annually
- New equipment, procedure, or policy change



20

WHAT WE ASSESS FOR

GENERAL INFECTION PREVENTION ROUNDS

- Infection control policies and procedures
 - Surveillance and disease reporting if applicable
- Hand hygiene
- Standard and transmission-based precautions
- Linen
- Storage of supplies
- Refrigerators and ice machines
- Medication management
- Safe injection practices
- General environment
- Cleaning/disinfection, HLD & sterilization




21

AREA SPECIFIC AUDITS



High-Level Disinfection

Sterilization Outpatient

Tropon-HLD



22

ISOLATION SIGNAGE



STOP DROPLET PRECAUTIONS **ALTO**
 PRECAUCIONES DE TRANSMISION POR GOTAS

Family/Visitors should not visit if having signs or symptoms of an infection or a communicable disease. Visitation also based on facility's policy.
 Los familiares y visitantes no deben visitar si tienen señales o síntomas de infección o de una enfermedad contagiosa. Las visitas también dependen de la política de la instalación.

Follow instructions below before entering room.
 Antes de entrar a la habitación, siga las instrucciones a continuación.

Everyone must:
 Clean hands before entering and when leaving room.
Todos deben:
 Lavarse las manos antes de entrar y al salir de la habitación.

Wear surgical/procedure mask when entering the room and remove after exiting the room.
 Usar una mascarilla quirúrgica o para procedimientos al entrar a la habitación y quitársela después de salir de la habitación.

Additional PPE may be required per Standard Precautions.
 Es posible que se exija equipo de protección personal adicional según las precauciones estándar.

Droplet Precautions
 Remove sign after room is terminally cleaned upon discharge or discontinuation of precautions.

Common conditions (per CDC guideline)
B. pertussis (Whooping cough)
 Influenza virus
 Rhinovirus
 Known or suspected *Neisseria meningitidis* (meningococcal) and *H. influenzae meningitis*
 Mumps
 Rubella
 Parvovirus B19

Room Placement:
 Use private room when available. When private rooms are unavailable, place together in the same room persons who are colonized or infected with the same pathogen.
 Spatial separation of ≥3 feet and drawing the curtain between patient beds is especially important for patients in multi-bed rooms with infections transmitted by the droplet route.

Personal Protective Equipment
 Put on in this order:
 • Alcohol based handrub or wash with soap and water if visibly soiled
 Mask—Cover nose, mouth, and chin. If wearing a mask with ties, all ties must be secured.

Take off and dispose in this order:
 • Mask—Do NOT grasp front of the mask when removing. Grasp bottom ties then the ties at top and pull away from face. For ear loop masks stretch the ear loops, remove, and handle only ear loops.
 • Alcohol based handrub or wash hands with soap and water if visibly soiled.

Diaper/linens:
 No special precautions. Should be managed in accordance with routine procedures.

Room Cleaning:
 Follow facility policy for Droplet Precautions

Trash and Linen Management:
 Bag linen and trash in patient/resident room (double bagging of trash or linen is not necessary unless outside of bag visibly contaminated).

Transport:
 Essential transport only. Place patient/resident in a medical grade mask. Clean and disinfect transport equipment. Alert receiving department regarding patient/resident isolation precaution status.

Duration of Precautions:
 For guidance for duration of precautions, follow Appendix A: Type and Duration of Precautions Recommended for Selected Infections and Conditions within the CDC's 2007 Guideline for Isolation Precautions: Preventing Transmission of Infectious Agents in Healthcare Settings

25

Respiratory Hygiene Stations



26

Linen: Key Points to Remember



- Linen and other textiles
 - Use of appropriate PPE during handling and sorting of contaminated linen
 - Contaminated laundry bagged at point of use
 - Do not shake or agitate linens
 - Use standard precautions when handling all contaminated laundry



27

THE WRONG WAY TO STORE LINEN



28

THE RIGHT WAY TO STORE LINEN



29

STORAGE: KEY PRINCIPLES TO REMEMBER



- Supplies and equipment that come in direct **OR** indirect contact with a patient, presents a risk of infection transmission in healthcare settings.
- For this reason, a very important element in infection control and prevention is separation of clean and dirty.
- Items and equipment must be stored in a manner to prevent contamination.



30

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR STORAGE OF SUPPLIES



- Clean and sterile patient care supplies should be stored in areas with limited traffic.
- If possible, clean/sterile supplies are clearly separated from dirty items by having them in a separate room such as a “clean utility room.”
- If clean and dirty items **must** be stored in the same room or location, there must be a clear separation of clean and dirty.

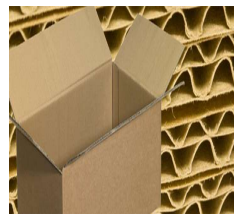


31

STORAGE: GENERAL GUIDELINES



- Clinical care equipment and/or supplies should not be stored on the floor.
- Primary shipping containers/boxes should never be stored in any clinical care area.
- Items should be removed from shipping cartons and can be stored on shelves, racks, cabinets and/or washable containers



32

PREVENT WATER CONTAMINATION



- Equipment and supplies should be stored at least 3 feet from the sink unless a barrier is in place, such as a plexiglass splashguard.
- Items or equipment should not be stored under the sink or exposed water pipes. Exceptions may be cleaning supplies or trash bags based on your facility policy.
- Storage in windowsills should be avoided.
- Packages should be inspected prior to use for any evidence of contamination (tears, moisture, soil).



33

PREVENT INADVERTENT CONTAMINATION



- Supplies should be stored in a manner that reduces the potential for contamination. This means:
 - Once taken out of original packaging, they should be placed in a covered container
 - Supplies needed for a procedure should be opened immediately prior to use
 - Supplies with an expiration date should be rotated and placed so that staff will use in a timely manner



34

Storage Shelf Considerations

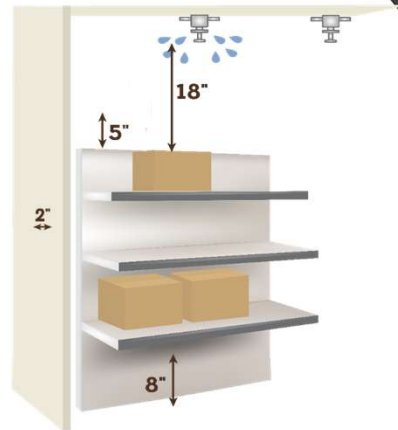


Assure items are protected from dust, moisture, and temperature and humidity extremes.

Guidelines for spacing between items and the surrounding environment should be followed:

Store at least:

- 8 inches from floor
- 5 inches from ceiling unless near sprinkler head [18 inches from sprinkler]
- 2 inches from outside walls



35

Storage Considerations for NON-Critical Equipment



- ▶ All non-critical reusable equipment should be cleaned, disinfected when visibly soiled and on a routine basis, **that is after each use**
- ▶ All non-critical reusable equipment should be stored between use in a manner to prevent inadvertent contamination by the environment or healthcare personnel hands
- ▶ Whenever possible blood glucose meters should be assigned to an individual patient and not shared
- ▶ Meters dedicated to individual patient should be stored in the patient's room if feasible.
- ▶ If not feasible to store in the room, disinfect after use, label with the patient's name and store in a manner to prevent contamination and inadvertent use on another patient.



36

MEDICATION MANAGEMENT / SAFE INJECTION PRACTICES

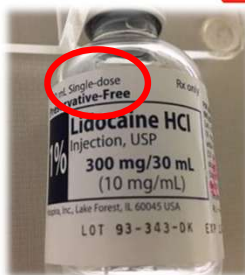


- Do staff use clean or sterile techniques and maintain clean, uncluttered and functionally separate areas for med prep?
- Are needles and syringes used only one time?
- Are sharps containers placed to be readily accessible to staff and close to area where sharps are used?
- Are safety devices available?
- Are sharps containers secured to prevent tipping and spilling?
- Observe injection practices.



39

MEDICATION MANAGEMENT / SAFE INJECTION PRACTICES



40

UNSAFE DIABETES CARE



Sharing of blood glucose meters without cleaning and disinfection between uses



Use of fingerstick devices or insulin pens on multiple persons



Failure to perform hand hygiene or change gloves between procedures

Patel et al. ICHE 2009; 30:209-14, Thompson et al. JAGS 2010, MMWR 2005; 54:220-3

Medication Management / Safe Injection Practices



INJECTION SAFETY CHECKLIST

The following Injection Safety checklist items are a subset of items that can be found in the CDC Infection Prevention Checklist for Outpatient Settings. Minimum Expectations for Safe Care.

The checklist, which is appropriate for both inpatient and outpatient settings, should be used to systematically assess adherence of healthcare providers to safe injection practices. Assessment of adherence should be conducted by direct observation of healthcare personnel during the performance of their duties.

Injection Safety	Practice Performed?	If answer is No, document plan for remediation
Proper hand hygiene, using alcohol based hand rub or soap and water, is performed prior to preparing and administering medications.	Yes No	
Injections are prepared using aseptic technique in a clean area free from contamination or contact with blood, body fluids, or contaminated equipment.	Yes No	
Needles and syringes are used for only one patient (this includes manufacturer provided prefilled syringes and cartridge devices such as insulin pens).	Yes No	
The rubber septum on a medication vial is disinfected with alcohol prior to piercing.	Yes No	
Medication vials are entered with a new needle and a new syringe, even when obtaining additional doses for the same patient.	Yes No	
Single-dose or single-use medication vials, ampules, and bags or bottles of intravenous solution are used for only one patient.	Yes No	
Medication administration tubing and connectors are used for only one patient.	Yes No	
Multi-dose vials are dated by healthcare when they are first opened and discarded within 28 days unless the manufacturer specifies a different (shorter or longer) date for that approved use.	Yes No	
Note: This is a difference from the expiration date printed on the vial.		
Multi-dose vials are dedicated to individual patients whenever possible.	Yes No	
Multi-dose vials to be used for more than one patient are kept in a controlled medication area and do not enter the immediate patient treatment area (e.g., operating room, patient care unit).	Yes No	
Note: If multi-dose vials enter the immediate patient treatment area, they should be dedicated for single patient use and discarded immediately after use.		

The One & Only Campaign is a public health effort to eliminate unsafe medical injections. To learn more about safe injection practices, please visit www.cdc.gov/injectionsafety/1andonly.html.

General Environment



43

General Environment



- Are exam tables, procedure chairs intact and not torn?
- Are areas free of dust, dirt, clutter?
- Are countertops without chips or missing laminate?
- Are walls free from repair needs?
- Are there any leaks?



44

Construction



- Was there a risk assessment (ICRA)?
- Dust
- Sticky mats
- Barriers
- Negative pressure



45

CLEANING/DISINFECTION, HLD & STERILIZATION



46

SPAULDING CLASSIFICATION



Spaulding Classification of Surfaces:

Critical – Objects which enter normally sterile tissue or the vascular system and require sterilization



Semi-critical – Objects that contact mucous membranes or non-intact skin and require high-level disinfection, which kills all but high-levels of bacterial spores



Non-critical – Objects that contact intact skin but not mucous membranes, and require low-level disinfection

47

Cleaning & Disinfecting



SELECT, MIX, AND USE DISINFECTANTS CORRECTLY

- Right product
- Right preparation and dilution
- Right application method
- Right contact time
- Wear appropriate PPE
- (*gloves, gown, mask, eye protection*)



48

CLEANING/DISINFECTION-NONCRITICAL



- Low-level disinfection is used for reusable patient items such as stethoscopes, reusable blood pressure cuffs and blood glucose meters.
- Are they using manufacturer's instructions for cleaning/disinfection?
- Are staff aware of appropriate wet / contact time for disinfectant used.



49

Pre-cleaning/Transport of Reusable Equipment



- Is point of use cleaning being done?
- Are soiled instruments handled and transported in a manner that will prevent contamination?
- If not being transported to the decontamination location immediately, are they pretreated or kept moist?



50

REPROCESSING AREA

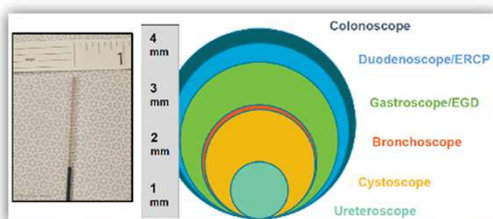


- Reprocessing area
 - Dirty to clean flow
 - Correct level of disinfection/sterilization utilized
 - Packaged and stored correctly
 - PPE available
 - Controls are in use and recorded



51

HIGH-LEVEL DISINFECTION-SEMI-CRITICAL



52

INFECTION PREVENTION TRACERS – WHAT DO WE LOOK AT?



Infection Prevention High-Level Disinfection Tracer

- Negative pressure for endoscopy reprocessing rooms
- PPE
- Leak testing
- Enzymatic – correct concentration / temperature / soak time
- Expiration dates primary and secondary containers
- Secondary labels as indicated
- Expiration dates for test strips – open and unopened
- Quality control process – initial and prior to each time
- Minimal effective temperature per IFU
- HLD chemical soak time
- Rinsing post HLD soak
- ???Are any single-use items being disinfected
- Orientation / competency
- Availability of manufacturer's instructions for use
- Storage of HLD items
- Process to identify and recall inadequately high-level disinfected instruments
- HLD equipment – Scope Buddy / Acu-sinQ maintained/used per IFU
- Transporting endoscopes to and from storage cabinet

53

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK STORAGE



54

INFECTION PREVENTION TRACERS – WHAT DO WE LOOK AT?



Infection Prevention HLD using a Trophon

- First step – removing visible soil
- PPE
- Disinfectant cartridge load / expiration date
- Chemical indicators expiration date
- Process to identify Trophon HLD failure
- Storage of HLD items
- Orientation / competency
- Availability of manufacturer's instructions for use
- Trophon maintained / used per IFU



55

STERILIZATION-CRITICAL



56

INFECTIOIN PREVENTION TRACERS – WHAT DO WE LOOK AT?



Infection Prevention Sterilization Tracer

- Process for cleaning instruments and devices prior to sterilization
 - PPE
 - Enzymatic detergents – correct concentration / temperature / soak time
 - Brushes
 - Ultrasonic
 - Rinsing and drying
 - Wrapping and packaging
 - Chemical indicators
 - Biological indicators / logs
- Bowie-dick tests
 - Labeling packs / pouches
 - Logs
 - Sterilizer maintenance
 - Reprocessing failure
 - Storage of sterilized items
 - Orientation / competency

57

Questionable Practices



Instruments are soaking in ?
And for how long



How not to store items
after sterilization



How not to load a
table-top sterilizer



58

Good Practice



Keeping instruments moist



Hinged items open



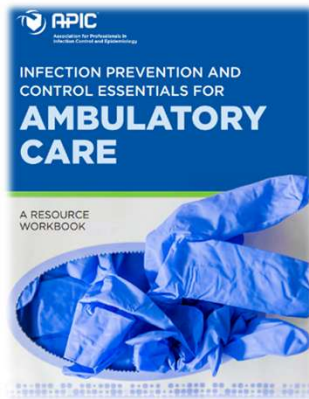
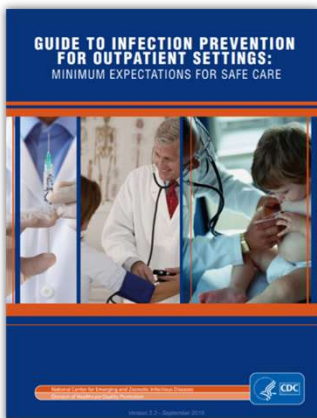
Sterilizer loaded properly

Sterilizer clean



59

Resources



60

Additional Resources



<https://spice.unc.edu/video-library/>

INSTRUMENT REPROCESSING: HIGH-LEVEL DISINFECTION AND STERILIZATION FOR THE INFECTION PREVENTIONIST

This self-paced course consists of short modules. Topics covered: 1) Physical Plant Design, 2) Spaulding Classification Scheme, 3) Decontamination, Pre-cleaning, and Transport, 4) High-level Disinfection (HLD), and 5) Sterilization Process. View each of the modules. At the end of Module 5 you will be directed to a 10 question test. You must get at least 80% of the questions correct. You can retake the test as needed. When 80% is achieved, you will be redirected to a short evaluation of the course – complete it and get your course completion certificate!

This course is free and on-line. Click on the button below, and you will be directed to log in or create an account. Search the course catalog for the course title, and get started!

This nursing continuing professional development activity was approved by the North Carolina Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

61

References



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<https://www.cdc.gov/hai/settings/outpatient/outpatient-care-guidelines.html>
- Guidelines & Guidance Library – CDC
<https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/index.html>
- One and Only Campaign
<https://www.cdc.gov/injectionsafety/one-and-only.html>
- APIC Text – Infection Prevention for Practice Settings and Service-Specific Patient Care Areas Ambulatory Care - <https://text.apic.org/toc/infection-prevention-for-practice-settings-and-service-specific-patient-care-areas/ambulatory-care>
- Infection Prevention and Control in Pediatric Ambulatory Settings
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62

