

# Childhood Communicable and Infectious Diseases

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## Infection Control

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, approximately 2 million patients each year develop hospital-acquired infections (HAIs). A Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report in 2009 estimated the overall cost of HAIs to hospitals in the United States at \$35 billion to \$45 billion ([Scott, 2009](#)). These infections occur when there is interaction among patients, health care personnel, equipment, and bacteria. HAIs are