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INFECTION CONTROL

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- **Infection control** – the set of methods used to control and prevent the spread of disease
- **Infections** - are caused by pathogens (germs)
- **Communicable disease** – disease spread from one person to another
- **Infectious disease** – disease caused by a pathogen (germ or bacteria)



UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS

- Universal precautions are infection control guidelines designed to protect workers from exposure to diseases spread by blood and certain body fluids.
- Always treat blood, body fluids, broken skin and mucous membranes as if they were infected
- Always follow Universal Precautions because you cannot tell by looking at a person whether they have a contagious disease



UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS

- Use practical, common sense
- Wash your hands before putting on gloves and immediately after removing gloves
- Do not touch clean objects with contaminated gloves



UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS

- Wear gloves if you may come in contact with blood, body fluids, secretions and excretions, broken or open skin, human tissue of mucous membranes
- Bag all disposable contaminated supplies
- Clean all surfaces that may be contaminated with infectious waste, such as beds, wheelchairs and shower chairs



WHAT CAN I DO?

- Good hand washing is the most effective method to prevent the spread of infection
- May use an alcohol-based hand cleaner in place of washing with soap and water
- Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue every time you cough or sneeze



WHAT CAN I DO?

- Throw used tissue in a wastebasket
- If you don't have a tissue, sneeze or cough into your sleeve
- Always clean your hands after coughing or sneezing



WHEN TO WASH HANDS

- Before and after meals.
- Immediately after coming to client's house
- Before leaving the client house.
- Before handling clean articles.
- After handling contaminated things.
- After using the toilet.
- Before commencing a procedure.



HAND WASHING

- Remove any jewelry or watch
- Wet hands with warm, running water
- Add soap
- Rub hands vigorously for 20 seconds, washing all surfaces (about the time it takes to sing “Happy Birthday” twice)
- Rinse, keeping fingers pointing down
- Dry with paper or clean cloth towel
- Turn off faucet with towel and open door with towel



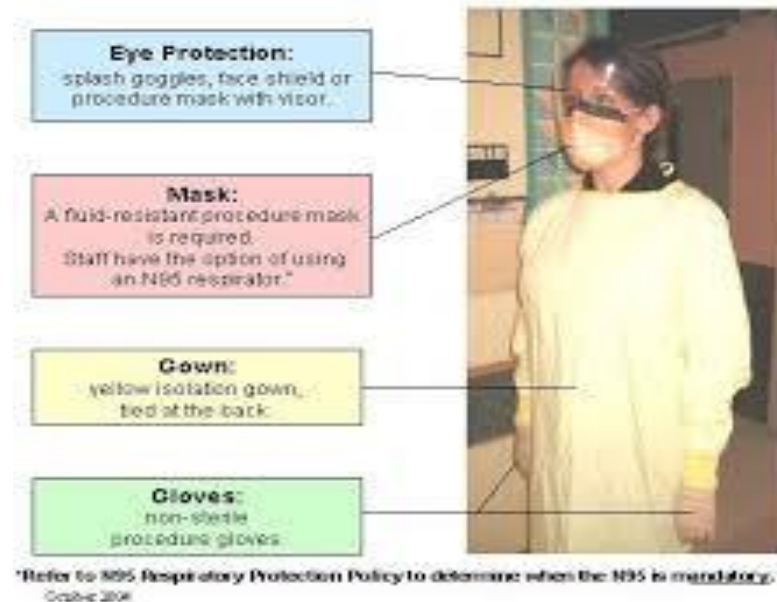
WATERLESS HAND SANITIZER

- Make sure all visible dirt is removed from your hands
- Apply a dime sized amount of waterless hand sanitizer to the palm of one hand or use a waterless hand sanitizer wipe
- Rub hands together covering all surfaces of hands and fingers
- Rub until waterless hand sanitizer is absorbed
- Remember, waterless sanitizers are not effective if dirt is visible on your hands



PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

- Soap and/or alcohol-based handwashing gel and paper towels
- Disposable gloves
- Disposable masks
- Goggles
- Face shields and caps
- Water-resistant aprons and gowns
- Shoe coverings
- Special fit-tested masks for patients with pulmonary tuberculosis



PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

- Do not use client's towels to dry your hands
- Use paper towels or carry your own supplies
- Use gloves:
 - ✓ When helping client with oral hygiene or mouth care
 - ✓ Providing ostomy care, bowel routines, giving enemas or suppositories
 - ✓ Assisting the client with checking the blood sugar
 - ✓ Handling specimens



WHEN SHOULD I USE GLOVES?

- When you may come in contact with blood or any body fluids, open wounds, or mucous membranes
- Performing or helping with mouth care
- Performing or helping with perineal care



WHEN SHOULD I USE GLOVES?

- Performing care on a consumer who has broken skin
- When you have open sores or cuts on your hands
- When shaving a consumer
- When disposing of soiled bed linens, gowns, dressings and pads



GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Wear gloves when handling soiled linens
- Fold or roll linen so that the dirtiest area is inside
- Hold and carry dirty linen away from your body
- Do not shake dirty linen or clothes



WHEN SHOULD I CHANGE GLOVES?

- When touching surfaces that may be contaminated
- Right before contact with mucous membranes or broken skin
- Immediately if they become wet, worn, soiled or torn



PUTTING ON GLOVES

1. Remove any sharp jewelry
2. Remove glove from box. Gloves come in small, medium and large. Most are rubber latex and are pre-powdered. Those who are allergic to latex should use vinyl gloves.
3. Hold glove with your thumb and forefinger and insert hand into gloves
4. Work fingers into proper places



REMOVING GLOVES WITHOUT CONTAMINATING YOUR HANDS

1. Pinch the palm of one glove and pull away from the palm.
2. Push the fingers of the pinching hand up inside the other glove, stretching the material of the glove towards the cuff of the other glove until it emerges by the wrist.



REMOVING GLOVES WITHOUT CONTAMINATING YOUR HANDS

3. Pull the fold down until the glove is almost off (you will be pulling the glove inside-out).
4. DO NOT take the glove completely off.
5. Hook the ungloved thumb between the wrist and the skin of the other gloved hand and pull down, pulling both gloves off. (Both gloves will now be inside out).
6. Dispose of the gloves properly.



THE END