

Infection Control in Adult Care Homes

Section 4

Breaking the Chain of Infection in
the Adult Care Home

Objectives

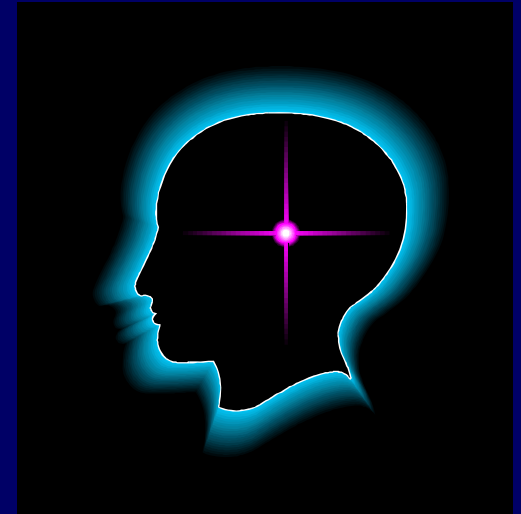
- Describe the cleaning and disinfection of surfaces, floors, high-touch areas, in resident living areas, to prevent infection in the adult care home.
- Describe Transmission-Based Precautions.
- Compare and contrast Contact Precautions, Droplet Precautions, and Airborne Precautions.

Objectives

- Explain the correct disposal of sharps.
- Define an outbreak and list steps needed to manage an outbreak in an adult care home.
- Describe two dangerous infections common in adult care homes – influenza and norovirus.

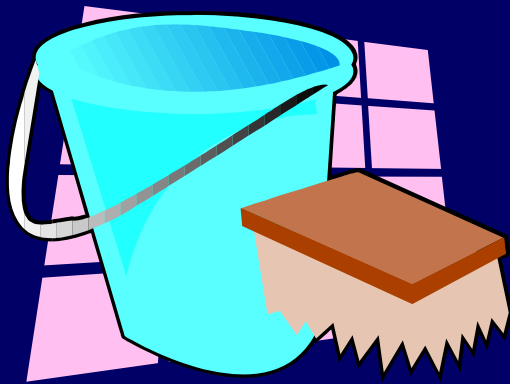
Recall

- Infection is a disease or condition of the body when harmful germs get into the body and grow in number
- Harmful germs are tiny living things that live almost everywhere – both inside and outside of our bodies that cause problems or disease
- Infection prevention is all of the things that people do to control and prevent the spread of infection
- Infection prevention extremely important in adult care homes
- Only way to stop spread of infection is to break the chain of infection



Care of the Adult Care Home Environment

A clean environment is **very important** in the prevention of infection



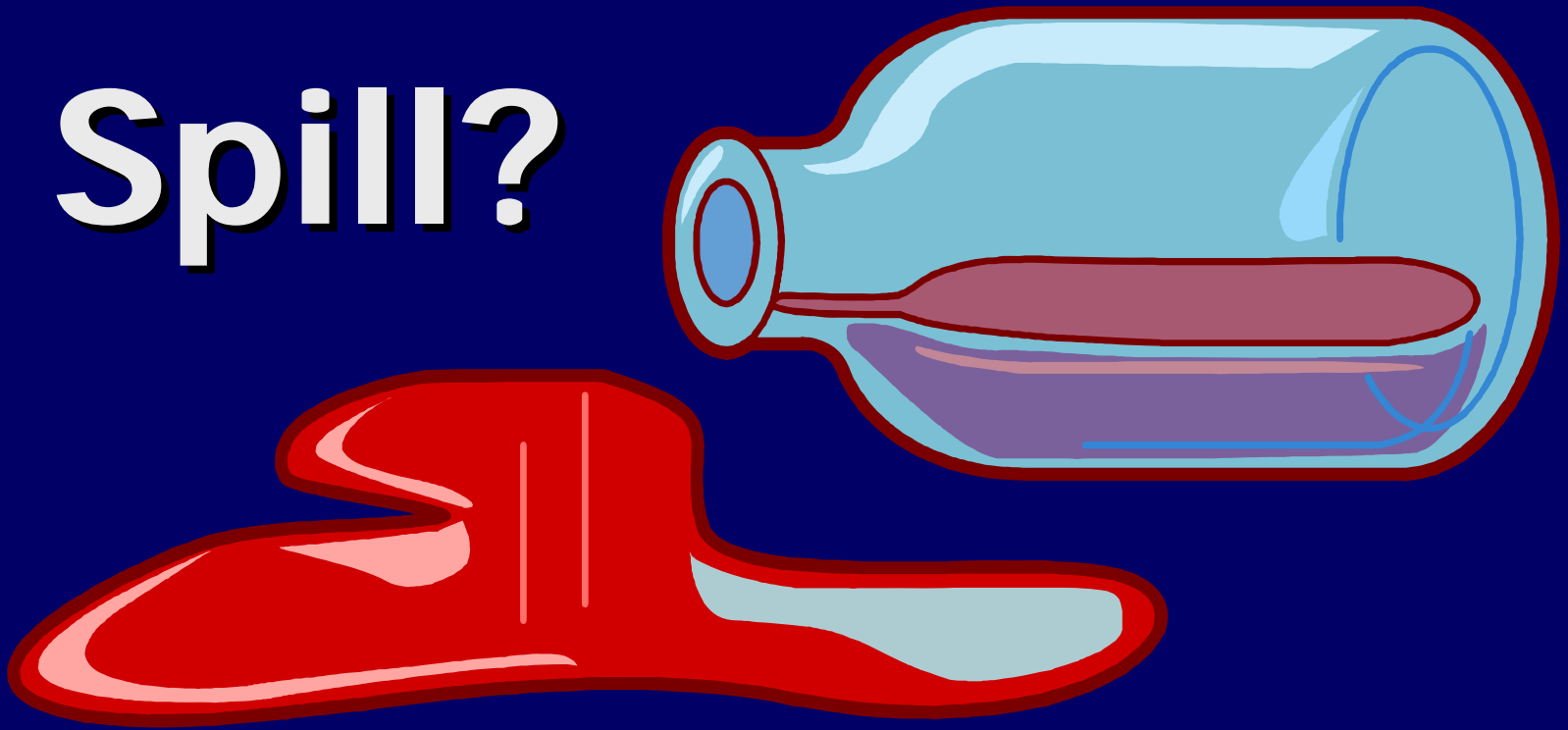
SPILLS on the floor...

What do I do now?

- Put on gloves
- Absorb spill and clean area
- Discard waste in appropriate container
- Apply disinfectant to area
- Place a warning cone or sign in area



Spill?



Why are spills on the floor involving body fluids especially dangerous in an adult care home?

Sharps - items that have corners, edges, or projections that can cut or pierce the skin



Examples?

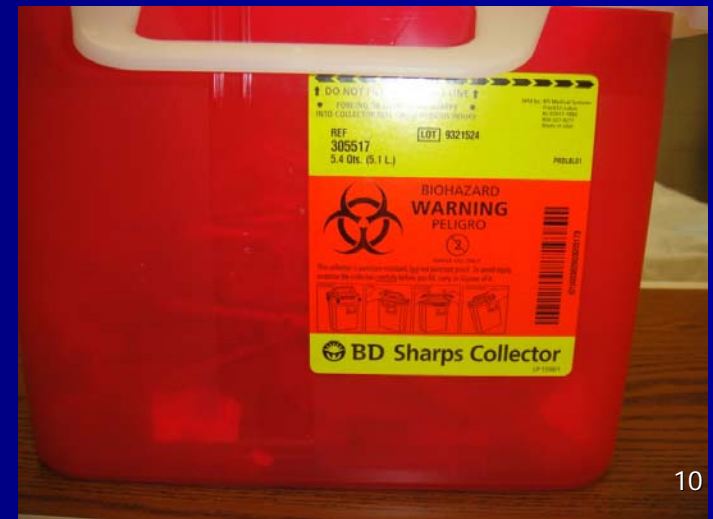
Sharps RULES

- Wear gloves and be careful
- Do not cut self or resident during shaves
- Do not jab self when using sharps
- NEVER, EVER re-cap a needle or other sharp object
- NEVER, EVER put anything sharp in a regular trashcan



Sharps Disposal

- ALWAYS put anything that has been used on a resident in a sharps container
- Description of the container?
- NEVER, EVER stick your hand or fingers in a sharps container
- NEVER, EVER over fill a sharps container



Medical Waste Disposal

Disposable syringes, needles, finger stick devices and other sharps, as well as blood of 20 cc's or more shall be treated and disposed of as mandated by North Carolina Law

**Do I Use
This One?**



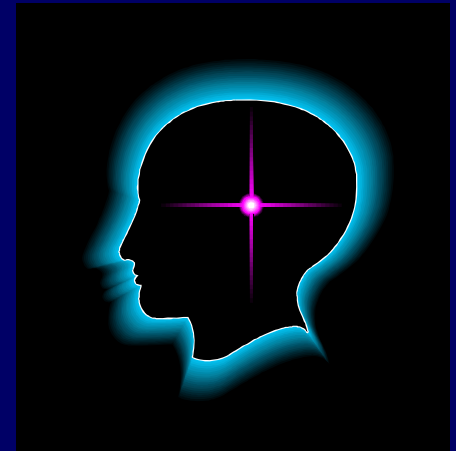
**Or That
One?**

Handling Linen That is **Soiled**

- Place in bag or container in accordance with facility's policies and procedures
- Wear gloves when changing, carrying, and discarding soiled linen
- Roll linen up during linen change so dirty side is inside
- Carry soiled linen away from clothes
- Do not shake linen



Recall



- CDC is the nation's health protection agency; an agency of the federal government that is in charge of the control and prevention of disease in our country
- Works to protect the public
- Developed a two-tiered way to prevent and control infections – Standard Precautions and Transmission-Based (Isolation) Precautions

Transmission-Based Precautions

- 2nd level to prevent and control infections
- Specific measures and tasks when caring for residents who are infected/may be infected with specific types of infections



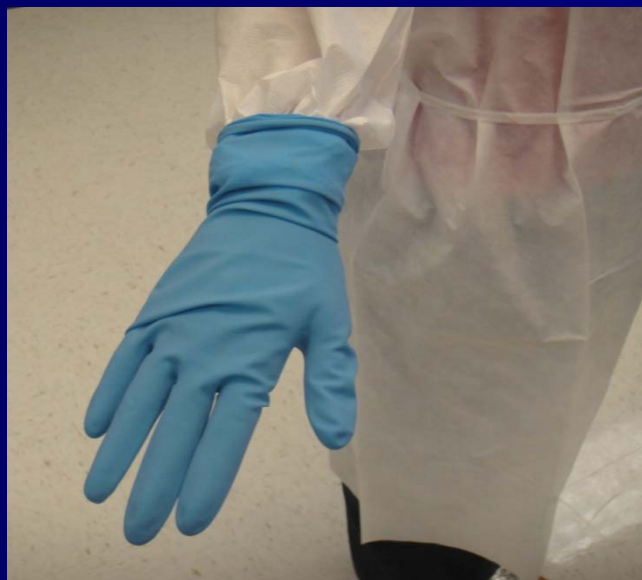
3 Types

1. Contact Precautions
2. Droplet Precautions
3. Airborne Precautions

Contact Precautions

Purpose – prevent spread of harmful germs spread by direct contact

PPE = Standard Precautions + Gown + Gloves

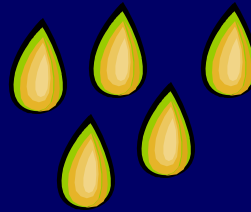


Examples

- MRSA
- Norovirus

Droplet Precautions

Purpose – prevent spread of harmful germs that travel by



Spread when an infected resident coughs, sings, sneezes, or laughs

PPE?

Examples?

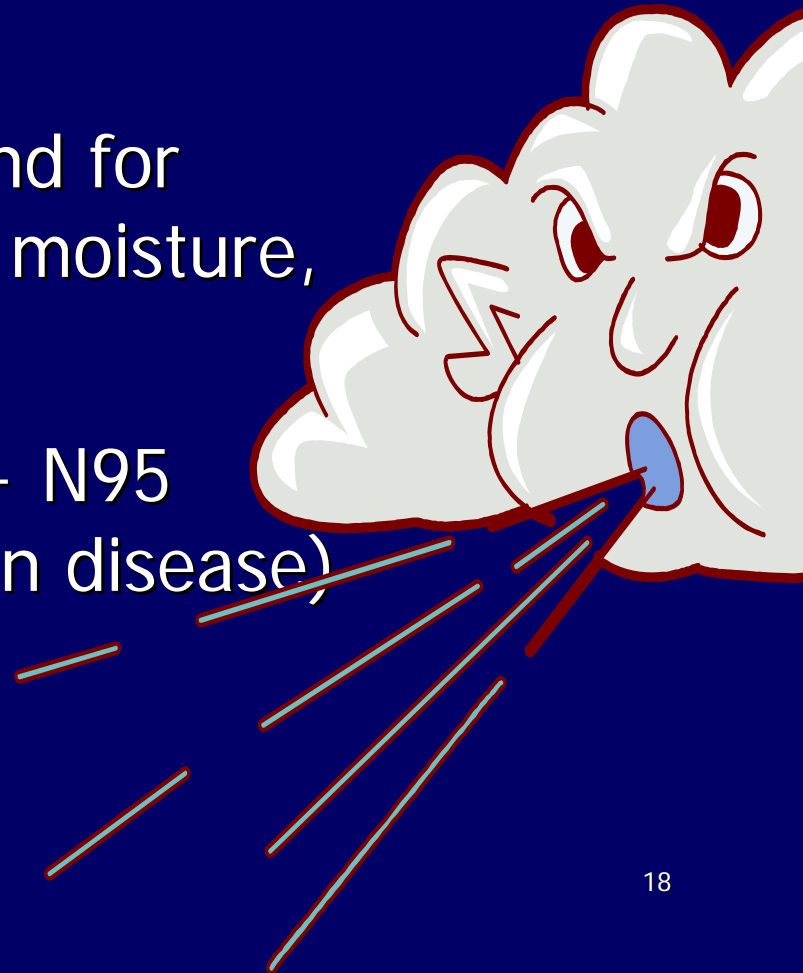
Airborne Precautions

Purpose – prevent spread of harmful germs that travel in air at a distance

Harmful germs can float around for a while and can be carried by moisture, air currents, and dust

PPE = Standard Precautions + N95 mask or greater (depending on disease)

Examples?



"OUTBREAK!!!!!!"

DEFINITION: More illness in more residents than what is expected or what is normal for the facility

- Respiratory illness
- Gastrointestinal illness
- Other illnesses

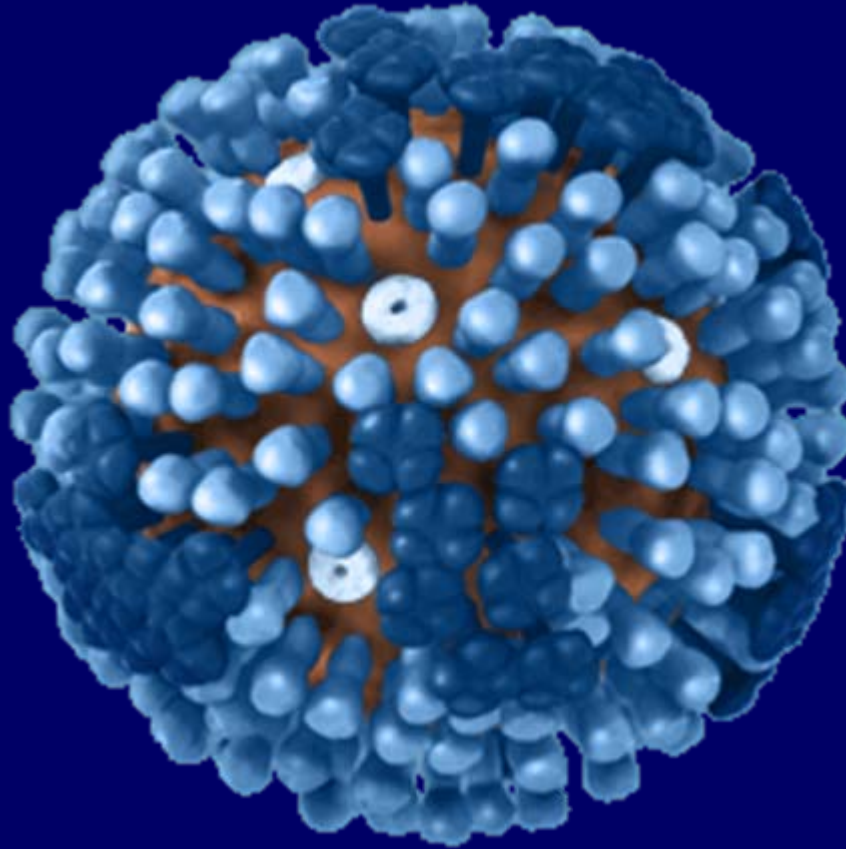
An outbreak could also be just one confirmed case of a serious infection, such as TB

“OUTBREAK!!!!!!”

Local health department is
notified as soon as an outbreak
is **SUSPECTED**

THE SOONER THE BETTER!!!

Influenza



Norovirus

