

# Infection control

© City Gate Training Centre



# Aim of the session

- To understand common healthcare acquired infections.
- To learn common principles of infection control.



# At the end of the session you will be able to:

- Identify common principles of infection control.
- Identify common healthcare acquired infections.
- Know correct hand washing technique.
- Know when and why use personal protective equipment.
- Know safe use and disposal of sharps.
- Know how to dispose other clinical waste.



# What is infection control?

It is the discipline concerned with preventing healthcare-associated infection. It is an essential part of the infrastructure of health care.





# Standard principles

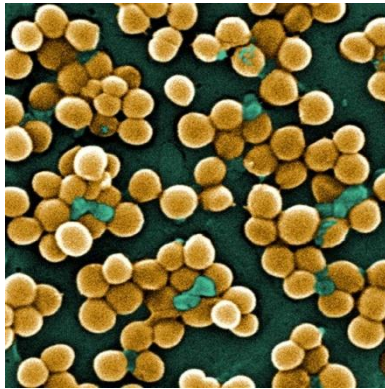
- Hand hygiene
- Use of personal protective equipment
- Safe use and disposal of sharps.
- Dispose of other clinical waste.



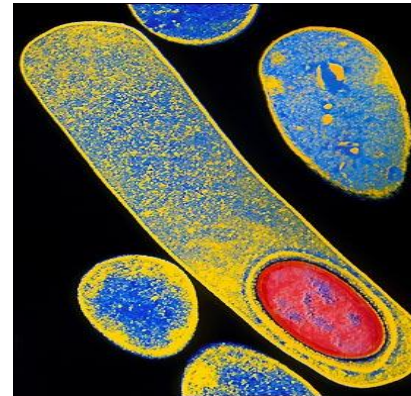


# Common healthcare associated infections

The two hospital acquired infections, known as 'superbugs', posing a particularly serious threat to our hospital wards are MRSA and C. difficile.



**MRSA**

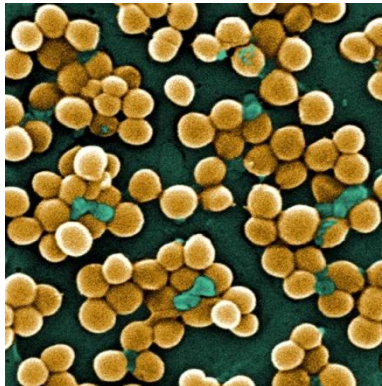


**C.Diff**



# MRSA

**MRSA** stands for methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus and is a form of bacteria from the Staphylococcus aureus (SA) family. If SA bacteria get into the body via cuts or wounds they can cause a boil or abscess and more seriously blood poisoning or a heart-valve infection.





# Clostridium difficile

*Clostridium difficile* (C. difficile) is a bacterium from the *Clostridium* family causing diarrhoea, and in more serious cases damage to the colon and intestines.





# Hand hygiene

- Hands must be decontaminated immediately before each and every episode of direct patient contact.
- Hands must be decontaminated, preferably with an alcohol based hand rub unless hands are visibly soiled.





# An effective hand washing technique

Preparation requires wetting hands under tepid running water before applying liquid soap or an antimicrobial preparation. The hand wash solution must come into contact with all of the surfaces of the hand. The hands must be rubbed together vigorously for a minimum of 10–15 seconds, paying particular attention to the tips of the fingers, the thumbs and the areas between the fingers. Hands should be rinsed thoroughly before drying with good quality paper towels.



# Hand rub gel





# An effective hand washing technique





# An effective hand washing technique



STEP 1  
Rub palms together.



STEP 2  
Rub the back of both hands.



STEP 3  
Interlace fingers and rub hands together.



STEP 4  
Interlock fingers and rub the back of fingers of both hands



STEP 5  
Rub thumb in a rotating manner followed by the area between index finger and thumb for both hands.



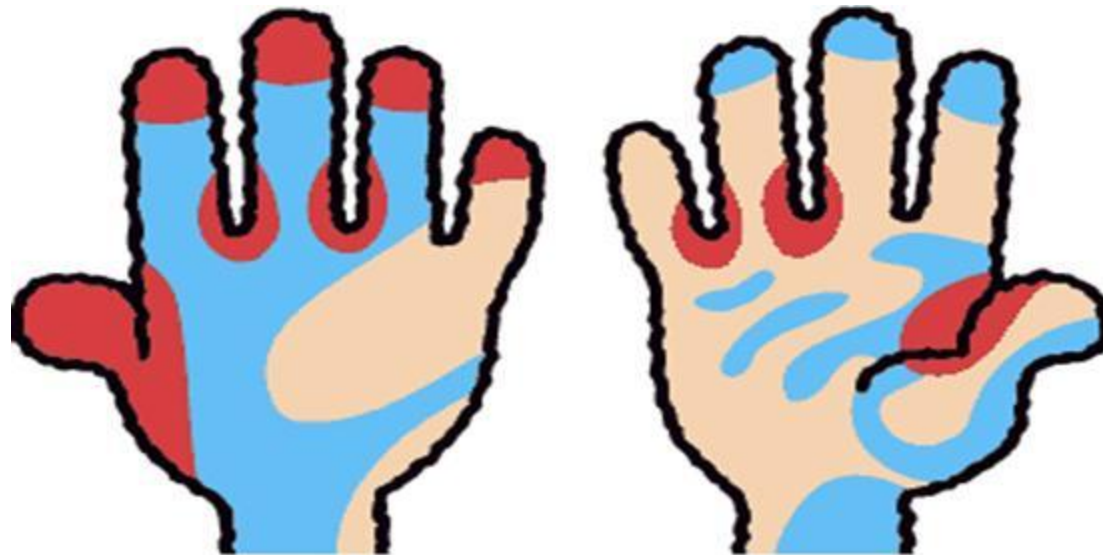
STEP 6  
Rub fingertips on palm for both hands.



STEP 7  
Rub both wrists in a rotating manner. Rinse and dry thoroughly.



# Areas most frequently missed during hand washing



- Areas most frequently missed during hand washing
- Less frequently missed
- Not missed

[Adapted from Taylor L (1978), An evaluation of hand washing techniques - I, Nursing Times, 12 January, pp 54-55]



# Use of personal protective equipment

**Gloves** must be worn for invasive procedures, contact with sterile sites and non-intact skin or mucous membranes, and all activities that have been assessed as carrying a risk of exposure to blood, body fluids, secretions or excretions, or to sharp or contaminated instruments.





# Use of personal protective equipment

**Disposable plastic aprons** should be worn when there is a risk that clothing may be exposed to blood, body fluids, secretions or excretions, with the exception of sweat.





# Use of personal protective equipment

**Face masks** must be worn where there is a risk of blood, body fluids, secretions or excretions splashing into the face. Particulate filter mask, must be used when clinically indicated.





# Safe use and disposal of sharps

- Sharps must not be passed directly from hand to hand, and handling should be kept to a minimum.
- Needles must not be recapped, bent, broken or disassembled before use or disposal.
- Used sharps must be discarded into a sharps container at the point of use by the user.



# Safe use and disposal of sharps





Do not fill above the mark that indicates it is full





# What is other clinical waste?

Any waste which consists of human or animal tissue, blood, other body fluids, excretion, drugs or other pharmaceutical products, swabs or dressings.



# How to correctly dispose other clinical waste?

As a common standard, other clinical waste has to be disposed into specially designed waste bin.





# How to correctly dispose other clinical waste?

Inside of the clinical bin is an orange bag, which once full can be replaced with the new one.





# How to dispose non clinical waste?

Non clinical waste which contains common waste products has to be disposed into domestic waste bin.





# Any questions?





# References

- Mirza, A. (2010) “*Hospital-Acquired Infections*”. Available online at: <http://emedicine.medscape.com/article/967022-treatment>. Accessed on: 17 December, 2010.
- NICE (2003) “*Infection control. Prevention of healthcare-associated infection in primary and community care*”. National Institute for Clinical Excellence.