



Assessment of Current CDI Prevention Activities:

APPROPRIATE CLEANING/DISINFECTION OF EQUIPMENT AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Advancing Excellence in America's Nursing Homes is a national campaign that began in September 2006. Our goal is to improve the quality of care and life for the 1.5 million people served by nursing homes in the United States. Nursing homes and their staff, along with residents and their families and consumers can join in this effort by working on the campaign goals that are designed to improve quality. We do this by providing tools and resources to help nursing homes achieve their quality improvement goals. To learn more about the campaign, visit www.nhqualitycampaign.org.

Background/Rationale

- *C. difficile* spores, surviving for a long time on objects and surfaces, play a role in the spread of *C.difficile* infections (CDI).
- Appropriate cleaning and disinfection of the environment and equipment is an essential strategy for reducing CDI.
- Spores can be found throughout a room like light switches, door knobs, and bedside tables.
- Nursing homes should have educational programs, policies and procedures that outline schedules and responsibilities for cleaning practices.
- Nursing homes should monitor adherence to procedures, evaluate effectiveness of cleaning, and keep staff informed of the results.

Current activities survey:

SECTION 1. KNOWLEDGE AND COMPETENCY				
		YES	NO	N/A
	General: Do direct care personnel* know			
Q1	Appropriate use of personal protective equipment when handling and disposing of soiled materials according to Standard Precautions?			
Q2	How to clean and disinfect equipment that is shared among residents?			
	Do Environmental services* personnel know			
Q3	How to use personal protective equipment (e.g., gowns, gloves) when cleaning the room of a resident with CDI?			
Q4	The difference between cleaning and disinfection?			
Q5	To follow manufacturers' instructions for use of cleaners and disinfectants?			

SECTION 2. INFECTION PREVENTION POLICIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE				
		YES	NO	N/A
Q1	Is there a policy for using an EPA-registered disinfectant with a <i>C. difficile</i> sporicidal claim when cleaning the room of a resident with known CDI?			
Q2	Is there a process to communicate with environmental services personnel when a resident is suspected or known to have CDI?			
Q3	Are there procedures and schedules in place for daily cleaning and cleaning when a resident with CDI stops occupying a room (e.g., the resident moves, is discharged, or dies)?			
Q4	Are there policies and procedures in place for the cleaning and disinfection of all equipment used by residents with known CDI?			
Q5	Are the responsibilities for cleaning and disinfecting equipment used by residents with CDI well defined between direct care personnel and environmental services personnel?			
Q6	If environmental cleaning services are provided by a contracting company, are those individuals aware of and following the nursing home's policies for cleaning and disinfecting the room of a resident with CDI?			
Q7	Are environmental services personnel available 24/7? If not, who is trained/ responsible for cleaning during the off hours and do they have access to the appropriate supplies?			
SECTION 3. MONITORING PRACTICES				
		YES	NO	N/A
Q1	Does your nursing home monitor the adequacy of room cleaning by environmental services personnel on a regular basis?			
Q2	Is there a method to track room and equipment cleaning/disinfection according to schedule?			
Q3	Does your nursing home monitor that direct care personnel appropriately clean/disinfect equipment before using it for the next resident?			

* **Direct care personnel** – All persons interacting with and/or providing hands-on care for residents; **Environmental services** are also known as housekeeping services.