

Beebe Healthcare
Margaret H. Rollins School of Nursing
Nursing 101 - Foundations of Nursing

Infection Control Class Prep 10/13/23

You will be required to complete the lesson on ATI, “Chain of Infection & Body Defenses.” You will complete the lesson (No need to print anything) and on this handout, write the proper order for the Chain of infection, an example of each of the components of the chain of infection, 3 nursing interventions and the rationale for doing them to protect against infections. Please submit this assignment electronically to Mrs. Wingate’s dropbox labeled, “Infection Control” **by 0830 on 10/13/23.**

******To access the assignment on ATI, follow these instructions: Log on to ATI, Go to the tab, “My ATI”, then look for the module, “Engage Fundamentals RN.” Click it and look for “Foundations of Nursing Practice” tab and click it. Next will be, “Infection Control & Isolation, then choose the lesson to the left called, “Chain of Infections & Body Defenses.”

For additional Learning: Fundamental Takeaways: Infection Control /Isolation Flashcards. (Optional)

Proper order of the Chain of Infection with an example of each:

1. Infectious Agent: The client’s gastrointestinal microbial flora enters a new area of the body, creating infection there.
2. Reservoir: Contaminated equipment, such as an external catheter, that serves as a habitat for the infectious agent to live, grow, reproduce, and replicate itself.
3. Portal of Exit: A body orifice, such as the ears, nose, mouth, or bodily fluids, that allow the infectious agent to leave the reservoir.
4. Modes of Transmission: How the infectious agent can move from place to place (can be contact, droplet, airborne, vehicle, and vector-borne transmission), such as when an infected client coughs and the droplets land on a healthcare worker’s face.
5. Portal of Entry: A body orifice, such as ears, nose, mouth, or breaks in the mucous membranes or skin, that provides the infectious agent an entry into the new individual. For example, the client that coughed on the healthcare worker

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allowed the infected droplets to enter into a scratch on the worker's face, causing the infectious agent to gain access into the worker.

6. Susceptible Host: This is where the infectious agent takes hold in the new person and becomes a reservoir for infection. The now-infected healthcare worker, although exhibiting no manifestations of infection, becomes colonized temporarily with the infectious agent, allowing for the future spread of infection to others.

3 Nursing Interventions w/ Rationales:

1. Educating the client on performing hand hygiene with hand sanitizer prior to eating meals. Proper hand hygiene is the most impactful way to prevent the spread of infection. By educating the client to perform hand hygiene prior to eating, the client learns to prevent the spread of infectious agents into his body where they can manifest, grow and reproduce, and spread to others.

2. Assist the client with taking a daily bed bath with prepackaged bath wipes. Infectious agents like to grow and reproduce on dirty, warm, and hard-to-reach areas of the skin. By assisting the client with taking a bed bath, the client's skin is cleansed of foreign bacteria, preventing the infectious agents from growing on the client's skin or entering the body through broken skin, where they can manifest, live in a reservoir, and spread to others.

3. Perform a daily linen change after bathing the client. Although the client's skin is clean after a bed bath, the bacteria from their skin, body orifices, and bodily fluids have contaminated their linens, serving as a reservoir for infectious agents. It is important to change contaminated linens with clean linens to keep clean skin on clean sheets to limit the contact time that the client has with potential

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infectious agents. This prevents the client from becoming a susceptible host and spreading infection to others.