

# South Dakota Project Firstline



## March 2025 Newsletter

This project is sponsored by the South Dakota Healthcare  
Associated Infections/Antibiotic Resistance Programs



### Infection Control Actions: Healthcare Associated Infections

Understand and prevent the spread of HAIs through effective infection control measures.

Educational Resource for Healthcare Professionals: [HAIs Prevention and Control for Healthcare](#)

#### How do HAIs happen?

- Improper hand hygiene.
- Improperly sterilized tools or devices like catheters, IV lines, and ventilators.
- Environmental contamination such as germs on bedrails and doorknobs.

#### Where are the Risks?

The risks for healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) are higher in areas such as intensive care units, surgical wards, long-term care facilities, dialysis centers, and outpatient clinics, where invasive procedures, vulnerable populations, and improper sterilization practices may increase exposure.

#### Key Moments for Preventing HAIs:

1. **Hand Hygiene:** Follow WHO's "5 Moments" to prevent infection.
2. **PPE:** Use protective gear for patients with contagious infections.
3. **Antibiotic Stewardship:** Use antibiotics properly to prevent resistance.
4. **Isolation Precautions:** Isolate patients with contagious diseases and follow precautions.
5. **Surveillance & Monitoring:** Track infections to spot trends and improve practices.
6. **Environmental Cleaning:** Disinfect patient areas and high-touch surfaces.
7. **Education & Training:** Train staff on infection prevention protocols.



Scan for **FREE**  
educational videos:



Learn how to prevent  
the spread of infections  
with CDC infection control  
trainings, posters, and  
resources.



Office Hours Call Link:

**Join us!** Office Hours are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 11:00 am CST. Each month we focus on Infection Prevention tips. *Learn, share, network!*

Join the **South Dakota Foundation for Medical Care** scheduled Zoom meeting for Office Hours, Register here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZErceygqTotHdwQpfrjApSA-nQwCd5oe99P>