



August Newsletter 2024



Germs Can Live In Blood

Know where germs live to stop the spread and protect patients

Guidance for Healthcare Professionals: [Micro-Learns Germs Can Live in Blood \(cdc.gov\)](#)

PFL Poster: [Germs can live in blood \(cdc.gov\)](#)

Germs That Can Live in Blood

- HIV
- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis C

Viruses like HIV, hepatitis B, and hepatitis C can spread in health care through contact with contaminated blood.

Healthcare Tasks Involving Blood

- Putting in an IV
- Performing a fingerstick
- Collecting blood specimens
- Changing wound dressings

Items that cause a cut or break in someone else's skin, like fingerstick blood specimens, can spread viruses in the blood and cause new infections.

Infection Control Actions to Reduce Risk

- Cleaning and disinfection; remember cleaning and disinfection can occur at the same time, but disinfection **never occurs before cleaning**.
- Hand hygiene
- Use of personal protective equipment (gloves). Using PPE does not take the place of proper hand hygiene!

Viruses in blood can live on surfaces and spread even when blood is not visible.

Office Hours Call Link:

Join us! Office hours are on the 2nd 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 August's Office Hours, Register here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZErceyggTotHdwQpfrjApSA-nQwCd5oe99P>



HEALTHCARE WORKERS

Scan for **FREE** educational videos:



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



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