



August 2023 Newsletter



Germs Live in the Respiratory System

Know where germs live to stop spread and protect patients.

Where are the Risks?

- When an infected person talks, breathes, sneezes, or coughs, they produce respiratory droplets that could spread germs.
- Germs are more likely to spread in places with poor ventilation or lots of people.
- Germs in the nose and mouth can be spread to the skin and hands when people touch their faces, which can then spread to surfaces or other people.

Germs that Live on Devices

- Pseudomonas
- Staphylococcus aureus MRSA (staph, including MRSA) (tip of the nose)
- Viruses, like influenza and SARS-CoV-2

Healthcare Tasks Involving the Respiratory System

- Oral care (e.g., toothbrushing)
- CPAP use for sleep apnea
- Intubation
- Giving nebulized medication

Infection Control Action to Reduce Risk

- Hand hygiene
- Use of personal protective equipment (respirators, eye protection)
- Source control (masking)
- Cleaning and disinfection
- Respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette
- Ventilation



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WORKERS**

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the spread of infections
with CDC infection control
trainings, posters, and
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Office Hours Call Link:

Join us! Office hours are the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 11:00 am CST. Each month we focus on an Infection Prevention tip. *Learn, share, network!*

The **South Dakota Foundation for Medical Care** is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Join here: