



# June 2023 Newsletter



## Germs Can Live On Devices

Know where germs live to stop spread and protect patients.

### Where are the Risks?

- When a device, like a pulse oximeter, is used on a patient's body to provide care, any germs on that device can be spread to places in or on the patient's body.
- When a device is put into a patient's body, like an IV needle, endoscope, or artificial hip, any germs on the device can spread into the body.
- If not handled correctly, shared medical devices can spread germs from one patient to another.

### Germs that Live on Devices

- Staphylococcus aureus (staph, including MRSA)
- Streptococcus (strep)
- Candida (including C. auris)
- Gut bacteria like E. coli, Klebsiella, and C. difficile (C. diff)

### Healthcare Tasks Involving Skin

- Surgery and procedures like colonoscopies
- Starting IVs
- Taking vital signs

### Infection Control Action to Reduce Risk

- Cleaning and disinfection
- Device sterilization
- Hand hygiene
- Use of personal protective equipment (gloves)

**HEALTHCARE WORKERS**



**Scan for FREE educational videos:**



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



**PROJECT FIRSTLINE**  
CDC's National Training Collaborative for Healthcare Infection Prevention & Control

sdprojectfirstline.org  

### Office Hours Call Link:

**Join us!** Office hours are the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89402993770?pwd=NkVyMVVQwVFdjQlR0N0FIMFhmckZwUT09#success>