Preventing Infections is REALLY EVERYBODY'S RESPONSIBILITY!!

Some of these folks think this doesn't apply since they may not touch patients...man are they wrong!.

And I mean you!!
GERMS are everywhere!!! fungi (fun guy)
bacteria
viruses
Bacteria Cultured From Objects
(keyboards, beds, stretchers, Pyxis, elevator buttons, door knobs, etc)

- To list a few:
  - Acinetobacter
  - MRSA
  - Staph aureus
  - Fungus
  - Enterococcus
  - Streptococci
- And lots of other nasty germs!
Breaking the Chain of Infection

INFECTIONOUS AGENT
Bacteria - Fungi - Viruses

RESERVOIRS
People
Equipment
Environment
Water

SUSCEPTIBLE HOST
Immunosuppression
Diabetes – Surgery – Burns
Cardiopulmonary - Neonates

IN Volves All Of US!!

PORTAL OF ENTRY
Mucous membrane
GI / urinary / Respiratory track
Broken skin

MEANS OF TRANSMISSION
Direct Contact
Fomites
- Injection / Ingestion
- Airborne aerosol

PORTAL OF EXIT
Excretions - Secretions Skin
- Droplets

Hand-hygiene
Environmental sanitation
Sterilization
Disinfection
Droplet

Large germ filled particles that usually pass 3 feet or less through the air before settling. Most commonly spread though coughing.

Ah-chooo!
Airborne

Small germ filled particles that can remain airborne and move on air currents. Very serious germs like TB and smallpox are spread this way.
How are germs spread?

**Contact** (touching)

- Direct & indirect
- Some examples - MRSA, lice, antibiotic-resistant organisms, scabies (to name a few)
Fecal-oral

Hands not washed after using the toilet or patient may not be able to control bowel or bladder
Here's something to consider before you reach for your date's hand (or share that popcorn). A recent survey of people using public bathrooms reveals that 25% of women and 40% of men don't wash their hands after using the toilet. YUCK!

Spread by touch
DIDN'T WASH HANDS
MEN
So Why All the Fuss about Clean Hands?

- Most common mode of transmission of pathogens is via hands
5 Moments Hand hygiene

1. Before touching a patient
2. Before clean/aseptic procedure
3. After body fluid exposure risk
4. After touching a patient
5. After touching patient surroundings
When to Use Soap & Water…

- When hands are visibly soiled
- When caring for a patient with diarrhea
Alcohol hand gels are ok….

- Before contact with patients or environment
- After removing gloves & touching patient or objects in patients environment if hands NOT visibly soiled
Hand Hygiene & Hand or Wrist Splints/Braces

- “Hand” hygiene applies to hands, as well as splint/brace surfaces
- Go to Occupational Health if need to wear brace or splint
So, what are Standard Precautions?

Wear gloves if contact with:
- Non-intact skin
- Mucous membranes
- Blood or body fluids, secretions, excretions (except sweat).

Did you know that Latex gloves are the gold standard in barrier protection? If latex sensitive, nitrile gloves are available at SFMC.
More on Standard Precautions

Health care worker should wear a mask:
- If patient is coughing or sneezing and can not or does not cover their cough
- If providing respiratory treatments
- ANYTIME there is potential for contact with patient respiratory secretions
Isolation Precautions

- Isolation based on how germ is spread
- Read sign on the door before entering
- Gowns, masks, gloves and any other protective equipment should be available outside the room for your use.
Final Test Question

If a co-worker asks: “Did you clean your hands?” should you reply:

A. “Thank-you, I did!
B. “I forgot but thanks for reminding me.”
C. Don’t reply – just look at the person like they are a moron.
D. “Who are you – the clean hand police?”
E. Both A and B.
Answer

A. “Thank-you, I did!

B. “I forgot but thanks for reminding me.”
Call hospital operator & ask for Infection Prevention department