

Wilk: Sorrentino's Canadian Textbook for the Support Worker, 5th Edition

Chapter 19: Preventing Infection

Objectives

After reading this chapter, the learner should be able to do the following:

- Distinguish between pathogens and nonpathogens.
- Summarize what microbes require to live and grow.
- Differentiate between bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites.
- List the signs and symptoms of infection.
- Describe the chain of infection.
- List ways in which microbes are transmitted.
- Define what a multidrug-resistant organism (MRO) is and state why it can be difficult to treat.
- List risk factors for infection.
- Describe common aseptic practices.
- Explain why handwashing is important.
- Describe when to wash your hands and general guidelines for handwashing.
- Describe cleaning, disinfection, and sterilization methods.
- Compare and contrast the principles and practices of Standard Practices and Transmission-Based Practices.
- Summarize how to use personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Describe the principles and practices of surgical asepsis.
- Apply the procedures described in this chapter to your clinical practice properly.
- pathogen/non pathogen
- normal flora
- bacteria
- fungi
- microbe
- organism
- parasite
- chain of infection/reservoir/portal of exit/mode of transmission/portal of entry
- vector

- infection control
- hand hygiene/handwashing/hand sanitizer
- asepsis/medica asepsis/clean technique/surgical asepsis
- contamination/disinfection
- standard practises/transmission based practises [isolation precautions]
- sterile/sterile field/sterile technique
- nosocomial infection/health care associated infection
- communicable/contagious
- colonize
- carrier
- contagious disease
- incubation period
- vaccine/pandemic
- sharps/biohazard waste
- signs/symptoms of infection
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