CDI AWARENESS CAMPAIGN CHALLENGE # 3:
Environmental Services

Part 1: Current State Checklist

This self-assessment will help you identify opportunities for improvement and choose the most appropriate challenge to help prevent CDI in your facility. A collaborative team working on healthcare-associated infections (HAI) and *Clostridium difficile* infection (CDI) may provide the most accurate assessment of your facility's current state.

STRATEGIES	YES	NO
Monitoring		
1. Do you periodically review internal data on the following topics?		
• CDI rates	☐	☐
• Hand hygiene compliance rates	☐	☐
• Personal protective equipment (PPE) usage Compliance Rates	☐	☐
• Cleaning compliance monitoring rates	☐	☐
Education/Training		
2. Do your Environmental Services staff orientation and yearly education include the following topics?		
• Pathology	☐	☐
• Hand washing	☐	☐
• PPE	☐	☐
• Approved cleaning products and application	☐	☐
• Daily cleaning: high-touch surfaces	☐	☐
• Terminal cleaning	☐	☐
• Equipment cleaning	☐	☐
3. Do your Environmental Services staffing guidelines clarify the following?		
• Workload	☐	☐
• List of duties and expectations	☐	☐
• Utilization of cleaning equipment	☐	☐
• All staffed trained for all jobs	☐	☐
Engagement/Support		
4. How would you describe the engagement of Environmental Services staff?		
• Understand the seriousness of CDI and preventive measures	☐	☐
• Interested in infection control, quality improvement and patient safety	☐	☐
• Have relationships/rapport with other staff members	☐	☐
• Include potential quality improvement project champions	☐	☐
5. Do these groups support/understand the need to combat CDI?		
• Environmental Services management	☐	☐
• Nursing team	☐	☐
• Patients	☐	☐
• Leadership team	☐	☐

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Part 2: The Challenge

Based on opportunities identified in your Current State Checklist (Part 1), **please choose one action-oriented challenge to implement in your facility.** *If you have something else in mind, you can write in your own custom challenge and how you will measure your change.*

* indicates related materials in the Resources section

SELECT	CHALLENGE	MEASURE
☐	**Staff Education** Initiate an Environmental Services/CDI Education and Annual Skills Day (or incorporate into existing yearly education/skills days) **KEY POINTS:** • Use training videos from reputable resources* • CDI pathology • Hand washing (importance and techniques) • PPE (proper use) • Approved cleaning products and application (individualized for your facility) • Importance of dwell time/wet time • Daily cleaning: high-touch surfaces • Terminal cleaning • Equipment cleaning	Administer a pre/post-test (see Appendix page ii) • Improved scores for post-test should include no more than 2 missed questions
☐	**Daily Cleaning** Increase focus on daily cleaning: Increase or initiate use of the following methods: • Method I: Direct observation • Method II: Fluorescent marker • Method III: ATP testing **KEY POINTS:** • Implement use of daily cleaning checklist* • Focus on high-touch areas • Create a feedback system	Improvement in audits pass to result in a minimum of 80% compliance
☐	**Terminal/Discharge Cleaning** Increase focus on terminal/discharge cleaning: Increase or initiate use of the following methods: • Method I: Direct observation: • Method II: Florescent marker • Method III: ATP Testing **KEY POINTS:** • Implement use of terminal/discharge cleaning checklist* • Create a feedback system	Improvement in audits pass to result in a minimum of 80% compliance

SELECT	CHALLENGE	MEASURE
☐	**Cleaning Cart Audits** Increase or initiate use of cleaning cart audits **KEY POINTS:** • Create a list of all appropriate cleaning supplies and products that are applicable for your facility/department/unit • Educate staff on proper cleaning products and supplies • Select a process to ensure randomization and that include all EVS staff, all shifts and all departments/units • Select a timeframe for audits: daily or weekly • Create feedback mechanism	Decrease number of missing and/or inappropriate supplies on cleaning carts during cart audits
☐	**Data Sharing** Increase or initiate data sharing between Infection Control and Environmental Services staff **KEY POINTS:** • To select this challenge, the facility must already be collecting valid and meaningful data that will serve to promote improvement in EVS cleaning • EVS staff should already be trained on CDI and have a clear understanding of requirements, high-touch surfaces, use of products/supplies, etc. • Incorporate the ICP and data sharing into monthly EVS staff meetings • Facilitate collaboration, partnerships and team-building between ICP and EVS staff • Create an open forum for EVS staff to share barriers, successes and suggestions	Based on internal metric, should show an improved outcome
☐	**Post-Isolation Cleaning (NH)** Increase focus on post-isolation cleaning in nursing home setting **KEY POINTS:** • Implement use of post-isolation cleaning checklist • Implement post-isolation cleaning for use after patients come out of isolation • Include implementation of complete linen changes • Include disinfection of high-touch surfaces • Incorporate checklist into daily housekeeping documentation	Track the number of isolation rooms vs. number of post-isolation cleans performed
	CREATE YOUR OWN CHALLENGE	
☐		

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Part 3: The Results

Please share the results of your challenge.

Challenge Selected:

Measurement Target:

TOPIC	RESULTS
Measurement Results	
Barriers	
Successes	
Additional comments	

Please indicate your plans to continue.

Next Steps:

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Appendix: Resources

ITEM/LINK	DESCRIPTION
Patient Education	
FAQs: "*Clostridium Difficile*" http://tiny.cc/CDIfaq	2-page fact sheet presents basic CDI information in large print format. From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
Preguntas frecuentes: "*Clostridium Difficile*" http://tiny.cc/CDIfaq-s	Spanish-language version of CDC fact sheet.
Patient and Family Education: *Clostridium difficile* Infection http://tiny.cc/WVCDI	3-page fact sheet explains CDI in everyday terms; includes instructions for what to do at home. From the West Virginia Quality Improvement Organization.
Staff Education	
Cleaning High-Touch Surfaces in CDI Rooms http://www.ohiokepro.com/shopping/pdfs/8858.pdf	1-page document includes photos for at-a-glance visual reference.
Environmental Cleaning – Online Course http://tiny.cc/ISDHec	Includes several videos on maintaining a clean environment to prevent infection. From the Indiana Department of Health.
Environmental Services Pocket Card http://tiny.cc/ECpocket	Handy reference tool for environmental services staff; includes room cleaning checklist and high-touch surfaces for disinfection.
Options for Environmental Cleaning Toolkit http://tiny.cc/ECopt	CDC toolkit includes infection preventionist-based program, guidelines for infection control, guideline for disinfection and sterilization, environmental cleaning checklist, and environmental cleaning evaluation worksheet.
Environmental Cleaning Checklist http://tiny.cc/EClist	1-page checklist in Microsoft Word format– part of the CDC Options for Environmental Cleaning Toolkit.
Environmental Cleaning Evaluation Worksheet http://tiny.cc/ECsheet	Monitoring tool in Microsoft Excel format – part of the CDC Options for Environmental Cleaning Toolkit.
Leadership Support	
Environmental Cleaning – Online Course –Leader's Guide http://tiny.cc/ISDHecL	Companion guide for Indiana Department of Health course listed above.
PDSA Planning Worksheet http://tiny.cc/PDSAws	Worksheet to guide your team through PDSA (Plan-Do-Study-Act) cycles. In Microsoft Word format.
Team Development Manual http://tiny.cc/TDmanual	8-page guide to help you assess your organization's team culture, deal with difficult people, address team dysfunctions, and foster a strong team environment.

The test on the following page was designed to be used as part of the Environmental Services Challenge Change Package (initiating an Environmental Services/CDI Education and Annual Skills Day). The test should be administered in two steps:

1 **As a pre-test** - prior to beginning your EVS/CDI Education and Annual Skills Day
Use as an assessment of current staff knowledge.

2 **As a post-test** - after the education is completed (approximately four weeks after the pre-test)
The scores should reflect noted improvement from the baseline.
Overall results will help you identify education gaps and areas where further education may be needed.

ANSWER KEY
1. What pathogen(s) is/are commonly spread by contaminated environmental surfaces?   b) *C. diff* infection (CDI)
2. Healthcare workers' hands often become contaminated with bacteria after touching which of the following?   d) All of the above
3. Which pathogen(s) require(s) the use of bleach/sporicidal to kill?   b) *C. diff* infection (CDI)
4. How important do you feel environmental cleaning is to prevent infections?   N/A
5. How much education have you received on the importance of environmental cleaning to prevent infections?   N/A
6. What do you think are the barriers to good environmental cleaning at your facility?   N/A
7. How often should high-touch areas be cleaned in a CDI isolation room?   c) Both daily and at discharge
8. What is the "dwell time" (contact/wet) time for your facility's cleaning products?   N/A
9. How long can *C. diff* spores live on surfaces?   c) Months

10. What surfaces are considered "high-touch" surfaces?
   __Y__ Bed rails   __Y__ Tray table
   __N__ Privacy curtains   __Y__ Bathroom handrails
   __Y__ Telephone   __Y__ Call box
   __N__ Floor   __Y__ Chair
   __Y__ Light switch   __Y__ Toilet seat

1. What pathogen(s) is/are commonly spread by contaminated environmental surfaces?
   a) Tuberculosis
   b) *C. diff* infection (CDI)
   c) Flu
   d) All of the above
   e) None of the above

2. Healthcare workers' hands often become contaminated with bacteria after touching which of the following?
   a) Toilet seat
   b) Patients' skin
   c) Call button
   d) All of the above

3. Which pathogen(s) require(s) the use of bleach/sporicidal to kill?
   a) MRSA
   b) *C. diff* infection (CDI)
   c) VRE
   d) All of the above
   e) None of the above

4. How important do you feel environmental cleaning is to prevent infections?
   a) Very important
   b) Somewhat important
   c) Not important

5. How much education have you received on the importance of environmental cleaning to prevent infections?
   a) More than enough
   b) Just enough
   c) Some/not enough
   d) None

6. What do you think are the barriers to good environmental cleaning at your facility? (Note all that apply.)
   a) Not enough time to clean
   b) Poor communication when rooms are ready for cleaning
   c) Inadequate cleaning supplies
   d) Inadequate education about cleaning

7. How often should high-touch areas be cleaned in a CDI isolation room?
   a) At discharge
   b) Daily
   c) Both daily and at discharge

8. What is the "dwell time" (contact/wet) time for your facility's cleaning products?
   Name of product _____   Contact (wet) time: _____
   Name of product _____   Contact (wet) time: _____
   Name of product _____   Contact (wet) time: _____

9. How long can *C. diff* spores live on surfaces?
   a) Minutes
   b) Days
   c) Months

10. What surfaces are considered "high-touch" surfaces? (Mark Yes/No)
    _____ Bed rails   _____ Tray table
    _____ Privacy curtains   _____ Bathroom handrails
    _____ Telephone   _____ Call box
    _____ Floor   _____ Chair
    _____ Light switch   _____ Toilet seat